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HYDE PARK  
HISTORICAL RECORD

WILLIAM A. MOWRY, Editor



VOLUME VI : 1908

The HYDE PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HYDE PARK, MASSACHUSETTS



HYDE PARK  
HISTORICAL RECORD

VOLUME VI—1908

WILLIAM A. MOWRY, EDITOR



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MRS MARY H. HUNT



## MRS. MARY H. HUNT

BY MRS. HELEN A. GREENWOOD

President Hyde Park W. C. T. U.

Mrs. Mary Hanchett Hunt was born in South Canaan, Conn., July 4th, 1830, and died in Boston, April 24, 1906.

Through her mother she was a direct descendant of the English cavalier, Edward Winslow, an early governor of Plymouth Colony, also of the gifted and godly Thomas Thatcher, who was the first pastor of the Old South Church, Boston.

She was educated at Amenia Seminary and at Patapsco Institute, near Baltimore, Maryland; was a successful teacher of the sciences, especially of chemistry and physiology, and in 1852 was married to Leander B. Hunt of East Douglas, Mass.

In 1866, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt came to Hyde Park, which thereafter was Mrs. Hunt's home until 1893, when she removed to Dorchester.

A member of the First Congregational Church in Hyde Park, Mrs. Hunt for several years was an earnest and efficient worker and leader in many of its departments.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, but one, Capt. Alfred E. Hunt, grew to maturity. He became a well-known scientific man, an expert chemist and metallurgist, and successful manufacturer of aluminum. In the prime of his manhood, he died in 1899 from disease contracted during the Spanish war.

In 1874-5, in connection with some of the scientific pursuits of her son while he was a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mrs. Hunt's attention was attracted to some British scientific studies of the nature and effects of alcoholic drinks. In them she saw the hope of saving the race from drink by in-

telligent conviction if only these and other facts about the true nature of alcohol could be made known. To do this preventive work on a large scale and effectively, she turned to the public schools with the conviction that by teaching these truths in the schools they would not only reach practically all the future citizens of the nation, but would reach them in the formative period of life before alcoholic habits had been established. Henceforth she was under the impelling power of the prophetic inspiration which became her motto: "If we save the children today, we shall have saved the nation tomorrow."

In 1879, Mrs. Hunt brought her plan before the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention at Indianapolis and was made chairman of the Committee on Temperance Instruction in Schools and Colleges. The following year, 1880, the committee system gave way to departments. Mrs. Hunt became national superintendent of the department of scientific temperance instruction, and for twenty-six years thereafter, until her death, was the remarkable leader of a remarkable work. In 1887 she became the first superintendent of the same department of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and this position too she held until the end of her life.

Upon her appointment by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union there began a unique and most magnificently conducted campaign. A letter written from Germany in 1906, by a Boston gentleman, expressed the opinion that "future generations of Americans will believe what many foreigners seem to think now, that Mrs. Hunt's success in the matter of scientific temperance instruction embodies the most important piece of constructive statesmanship which our day has brought forth."

Nearly three years, 1879-1882, were spent arousing public interest in the cause of temperance education from the public platform, before school boards, colleges, normal schools, etc., before she thought it wise to inaugurate legislative efforts. Then, in 1882, the first temperance education law in the world was enacted in Vermont. Twenty years later, every state in the United States and the National Congress had passed laws re-

quiring instruction in the public schools in physiology and hygiene including the nature and effects of alcoholic drinks and other narcotics. It was a wonderful tribute to the ability and persistent effort of Mrs. Hunt, who, during these years, had been the recognized leader of the movement which had the loyal support of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and, to a large extent, that of other temperance organizations and of the churches. Very many of the legislative campaigns were conducted by Mrs. Hunt personally, whose wise generalship never faltered or hesitated.

The enactment of laws was in reality but the smallest part of the work. A hitherto unknown and undeveloped study had to be fitted into the school curriculum, adapted to grade, books had to be prepared and teachers trained. Hence, along with the constant legislative work Mrs. Hunt developed its practical educational application in the schools. As a basis of information as to the facts on the subject, she gathered what is probably the largest collection in the world of the results of scientific experimentation and investigation on the alcohol question.

These facts under her guidance were gradually embodied in school text-books for use by pupils of all grades. Courses of study were devised which not only have been widely used in the United States, but have been guides to other nations who are following the leadership of the United States in this branch of educational development.

With a vision which took in the whole world, Mrs. Hunt's eager mind reached out to the children of other nations, and correspondence with government officials and temperance workers opened the way to the extension of the principle of prevention through education.

Her attendance at the International Congress against Alcoholism, held at Brussels in 1897, under the honorary presidency of the King of Belgium, is said by one familiar with European temperance work to have been "epoch-making," because of the great stimulus given the European temperance education movement. She was made first vice-president of the Congress and received special consideration not only on the continent but in London,

where noted British citizens, at whose head stood the late Archbishop of Canterbury, met to do her honor.

Again, in 1903, Mrs. Hunt's presence at the World Congress against Alcoholism was urged, and with letters from Secretary of State Hay, Mrs. Hunt was received at this Bremen Congress with the honors of an official representative of her country. Her address was printed and widely circulated in Germany, and she was honored by the Empress by a private interview at which the Empress was an interested, sympathetic inquirer into the American plan for temperance education.

A most significant result of this visit to Europe was the movement started among British physicians which, in February, 1904, led 15,000 medical practitioners of Great Britain and Ireland to sign a petition asking that regular instruction in hygiene and temperance similar to that of the United States be given in all public schools of the kingdom. The work thus begun as a direct outgrowth of Mrs. Hunt's addresses and conferences in England, in 1903, is being pressed to a successful issue.

Mrs. Hunt's last days were spent at her home in Dorchester, where, despite increasing weakness, she continued her work managing it with her usual skill until the power of speech completely failed. But even in the last days she was greatly cheered by learning that the plans she had carried out in America were being adopted in Great Britain, Germany and other countries. As a result of America's example, scientific temperance instruction is being given to some extent in schools of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, British India, South Africa, most of the European countries; on this continent, in Canada, Mexico, Chili; and in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Bahama Islands.

Mrs. Hunt was a life director of the National Educational Association, and edited and published the School Physiology Journal for teachers.

She was an attractive and powerful platform speaker, whose spoken message was in demand to the very end of her life, and she probably addressed more legislative bodies than any other person of her day.



MRS. HUNT'S HOME IN HYDE PARK





An inspiring and successful leader, her own words were, "As a leader of the mighty hosts of godly Christian Temperance Union women, I have tried to follow the great Leader without whose guidance our efforts would have been in vain." But her leadership was not of a forlorn hope. The temperance education laws that she wrote are not only on the statute books of the national congress and all the states, but the teaching they require has been and is being written into the lives of the millions of children in the public schools and through them into the life of the nation.

"Her accurate knowledge, her clear vision, her forceful speech and facile pen, her reverence for God's truth embodied in natural law, her generous appreciation of her great and noble army of intelligent and efficient co-workers, her humble piety and prayerful faith in God, has placed her on record as one of the most unselfish and useful women of our time and has entitled her to the lasting gratitude of every lover of mankind."



# CAMP MEIGS, READVILLE, MASS.

BY D. ELDREDGE

Read before the Meigs Memorial Association, 1906  
Read before the Hyde Park Historical Society, 1906

## PRELIMINARY.

I am here, my friends, at the request of the Meigs Memorial Association, to present to you, as best I may, in their name, the result of my labors in searching for and collating the facts in connection with the history of old Camp Meigs.

I have brought to them several photographs, comprising portraits and camp views, subject to such disposition or future display as they may see fit.

Of the search, much of which has been confronted by and surrounded with difficulties innumerable, I need not say that I have, like the gleaner Ruth, gathered here a little, there a little, or that where much was expected, little was found.

Crude in some parts, imperfect in others, I lay the facts before you.

## CAMP MEIGS.

By way of prelude, away back in the forties, it was my fortune, as a very small boy, to live with my widowed mother, by the side of the pond at Readville—then known as Dedham Lower Plains—and to attend school very near the present site of the Damon School. My teacher was Rebecca Bullard, now gone to her rest. The house was near where the reservation apparently begins, under the hill near the woolen mills. It required considerable courage to cross the dam, for its roaring, to my boyish ear, was terrific.

Many of you readily remember John Farrington. I do, too, vividly, for he was, at the period I have mentioned, employed in

the mill, then a wholly wooden structure and insignificant in size compared with the mill of today. As I passed to cross the first bridge, it was John Farrington's delight to project his body far out from an upper window, and yell at me like a Comanche. Frequently I turned and went back to mother, whose reassurance of my safety again started me for school. A little later, in the early fifties, I was a youth at Mill Village, now East Dedham, and passed several years in that village, attending school, where the Avery School now stands. As a result of my residence as stated, I knew, practically, everybody, and became familiar with the geography of the whole town.

Years after I had removed from the town, the civil war broke out, and I became a minute part of Uncle Sam's great army.

This ends my prelude, only offered to show that I was, at least, partially equipped to take pickaxe and spade and dig up the facts concerning Camp Meigs.

I early directed my attention to

#### THE MONUMENT AT DEDHAM.

This branch of my subject may not interest everybody, but my research developed many items of value for preservation.

The Soldier's Monument at Dedham was erected by the state to the memory of the sixty-four men who died at Readville. But there this monument stood, calm, dignified, defiant, resisting all my early efforts to find its history. It is decorated each Memorial Day by the Post at Dedham, for which service the state pays the Post a small sum. But when was it erected? Who made it? Were there dedicatory exercises; if so, when and by whom? Were these men buried there in the order of their death?

Inquiry among the oldest inhabitants, and a letter in the local paper, followed a little later by an advertisement, all failed to produce anything satisfactory. A close examination of the State Auditors' Reports revealed the cost of the monument, but did not reveal the maker. Several critical examinations of the monument itself failed to reveal anything, even remote. At someone's suggestion, I took a fac simile of the lettering to a monument maker

in Boston, and he at once expressed his opinion that it was made in Taunton, and by one D. A. Burt. This is really not of superlative value. The latest death lettered upon the monument is that of Henry A. Gifford, of Co. C, 27th Mass., who died July 12, 1865, and his age is recorded as fifteen years. The earliest death shown upon the monument was that of Thomas Tracy, and the monument says, "Died Aug. 1, 1861, aged 33 years." No company, no regiment, because, although he went to camp to join the 20th Regiment, he met his death by drowning in the Neponset River before his opportunity came to be actually enrolled as a soldier, having arrived only the night previous. A very large proportion of the 64 names are of colored soldiers, of the 54th and 55th Infantry Regiments and the 5th Cavalry Regiment. I find that six died of small pox and were buried in the rear of the barracks that were erected first for the 44th Regiment, the spot being near the tracks of the New York & New England Railroad. These bodies were afterwards removed to the cemetery at Dedham.

In June, 1864, the state purchased the lot of Mr. Edward Stinson. It is long and narrow, being 15 feet wide by 165 feet long. This was a part of a considerable purchase by Mr. Stinson, and was next to the old cemetery itself, and practically became an addition, so called, and now one can observe no line to indicate where the addition begins. A study of the names shows that the monument was not made until after the last death recorded thereon, for the four sides are entirely symmetrical in having exactly sixteen names each.

There were presumably a few other deaths at the camp, but evidently relatives or friends took the bodies away. The receiving tomb was used prior to the time when the lot was ready, and there were a few burials in the old cemetery, later removed to the soldier's lot. I have made photographs of the monument—each of the four sides—and these I also present to the Association.

The State paid \$1,000 for the monument and its setting up, and \$450 for the lot. Finally it appears well established that each grave had originally a marker of wood, bearing the name,

etc., but time and weather so demolished them, that in 1892 the lot was graded, the graves levelled and resodded, the markers cast aside, and since then the entire lot is of one level, broken only by the beautiful monument in the centre.

#### BEFORE THE WAR.

Again let us go back to the 40's and to the land under consideration. It was then called Sprague's Plain, and was one general whole prior to the building of the Providence Railroad. State musters were held in those far-off days, and it was here that the "striped pig" is said to have made its advent, or more properly speaking, it was here invented. To those who are uninformed, I will explain that it was a ruse to cover the clandestine sale of intoxicants. The tent which served as a cover to a bar bore the legend "Striped Pig." About 1840 there appeared this verse in a local paper:

In Dedham now there is a great muster,  
Which gathers the people all up in a cluster;  
A terrible time, and what do you think?  
They've found a new way to get something to drink.

And now we come to the Civil War, and the occupation of these acres by soldiers.

Mr. Ebenezer Paul, living near Paul's Bridge, owned the land, it having been willed to him and another by his Uncle Isaac, who died in 1852. The will was a peculiar one—really full of peculiarities, but I only mention a few. The widow, Ebenezer's Aunt Lydia, was quite fully protected in her rights as widow, and apparently as having a "life estate." The boys were to milk the cows and carry the milk to the house; they were to cut wood for the widow's use and carry it to the wood house and pile it up, and in time to dry for use. They were to provide annually one and one-half tons salt hay, and carry on the farm in the interest of the widow.

These few points are sufficient for my purpose, in calling your attention to what happened later.

It is related that the first that Ebenezer Paul knew of any designs upon his land as a camping ground, was his sudden discovery one morn of two or three men sitting under one of the long rows of elms, a few of which are now standing, and his cows gazing upon them with interest. Later, it is said, they came and took the land, leaving him to apply to the State for compensation, which he did, and I am credibly informed that he received three hundred dollars per year rental.

The first call for troops—insignificantly small as it proved—was succeeded in May, 1861, by a second, this time for 500,000, and it was under this call that the first troops assembled “On Sprague’s Plain near Sprague’s Pond in the town of Dedham.” I have quoted the language of the order of Governor Andrew dated July 2, 1861.

When it became known that troops were to occupy this field, the neighbors were apprehensive lest the cows would fall into the hands of military separators, or that the morning examination of the chicken coop would reveal the fact that many chickens had been foully slain, or that their vegetables would be ruthlessly removed from their beds at night; but nothing of the kind happened, for Col. Lee was a strict disciplinarian.

The first to arrive upon these grounds,—and they came within a few days after the 4th of July, 1861,—were the 18th and 20th Regiments, the latter commanded by Col. William Raymond Lee, who is credited with having selected the spot. The ground over which we now are was covered by the tents of the 20th, while a little farther away from Milton Street, near the Elms, the 18th pitched its tents.

Two companies for the 18th Regiment came from Dedham. One company was purely local and the other was from Wrentham. They had been quartered together in the hall of the old Agricultural Fair Building at Connecticut Corner. They were escorted all the way by the five fire companies of the town, and two brass bands, creating quite a furor as they marched along.

The press announced the occupation of the Camp and said the camp is fine. Col. Lee in selecting it had an eye to the comfort

and health of the men. The field contains twenty-four acres and is in the vicinity of Sprague Pond and Neponset River. The soil is light and no marshy ground. There will be ninety tents for officers and men, and one kitchen for each company, built of rough boards. The storehouse has already been built and furnished with provisions. A well has been dug and water will be pumped from the pond.

Another paper said the spot is the old Dedham Muster Field, twenty-four acres, nearly square, perfectly level, and the camp is within 50 rods of the station. The large storehouse is near the kitchens, and they are in a row across the further end of the field as one approaches from Boston. A deep tub has been set, into which water flows from the middle of the pond, for cooking purposes. Another account says on the left flank of the camp is Sprague Pond, and in the rear Neponset River. Adjacent is a field of thirty-four acres at the disposal of the (20th) regiment for drill.

I have been somewhat minute in details, at this initial occupation, for several reasons not necessary to relate at length.

In connection with the accounts of the 18th Regiment, the press announced that the camp would be called Camp Brigham, and the 20th named it Camp Massasoit. This shows that each regiment adopted a name for its own camp, and this method continued for awhile, until the general name of Camp Meigs was placed upon the whole. The name Brigham was in honor of the Commissary General of Massachusetts, Col. Elijah D. Brigham.

And now camp life is fully inaugurated on Sprague Plain. Two regiments are in tents, and all the busy preparations for war are going on. The drilling of squads, platoons, companies and regiments; the dress parade, the uniforms, the officers, and even the individual soldier, all upon exhibition, for there are hundreds of visitors daily. Later in the war there were thousands daily, a constant, never-ceasing stream, and upon extra occasions, like a review, it was a difficult matter for the camp guards to walk their beats.

Camp life goes on apace, The arrival of clothing, of arms, of

any sort of supply, created more or less excitement, and just the same if such did not arrive when expected or desired. There was then a general feeling among the men that each Company had a right to choose its officers, but this idea became modified as the war went on, and finally disappeared. But alas and alack, when confronted with the facts that their wishes would not be wholly met, they rebelled and indulged in verbiage replete with adjectives and many violent parts of speech.

Of the two regiments under consideration, the accounts show that the 20th regiment was the greatest sufferer. For when that regiment was mustered in on the 18th of July, the men of Co. B absolutely refused to raise their hands, because they had not been assured that the officers of their choice would be commissioned. The next day apologized, and on the 26th they were mustered in.

This records the first semblance of mutiny, and then not a very serious matter. Later in the war it would have had a different coloring, and been summarily dealt with.

Of the items of interest in this first encampment, many of which might be related, a few only are selected. About the middle of August, several men of the 20th Regiment went to Sprague Pond, ostensibly to bathe, but really to desert. They were captured at Mansfield. They were to join an Irish Brigade in New York.

A hospital was established, a little removed from the noise of the camp. The patients rested on comfortable couches and had mosquito netting. About the middle of August it was announced that the 20th Regiment had about 500 men and the 18th Regiment 641.

These two regiments have now been uniformed, armed, mustered in, and must be sent to war. The 18th left Readville on the 26th of August, by rail for Stonington, thence by steamer "Commodore" to New York.

And on the 4th of September the 20th Regiment left. Apparently these departures left the camp entirely vacant, but such was not the fact. The men for the 24th Regiment began to report at Readville about the first day of September, and not



many days thereafter there were three companies of cavalry there, destined to become with others the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry. The three companies were from Boston, Springfield and Bridgewater, in all about 300 men.

By the end of September, the men for the 24th Regiment had become quite numerous, and they adopted the name of Camp Hatteras, presumably from the general rumor that they were to be a part of the force destined to make a descent upon the coast of North Carolina.

On the first of October, the boys of the 24th raised and dedicated a flag staff, and a salute of thirteen guns fired from a small cannon from Sevastopol formed a part of the ceremonies. On the 19th of October, a newspaper said that stables had been completed for 600 horses, the rest will be completed this week, and that the camp was near low, marshy ground.

The 1st Massachusetts Cavalry had a taste of a local rebellion on the 6th of November. On that day it became painfully apparent to the men of the regiment, that their wishes as to whom should serve as officers were being ignored, and they raised a considerable rumpus, so that violent measures had to be used to maintain order. When the trouble was at its highest point, a call was made upon the 24th Regiment to assist in restoring order. That regiment came upon the ground on the double quick, but not early enough to take an active part in the proceedings. Order was finally restored.

The Cavalry Regiment numbered 1,029 early in December, and they had about 900 horses. The cold was such that small stoves were issued, for use in the tents, which were of the Sibley pattern (conical). On the 9th of December, the 24th Regiment left for the seat of war, and the 1st Cavalry left on the 25th, 26th and 28th of December.

Of the horses issued to this regiment, said to be the most unruly in the whole State, the bays were assigned to Companies A, B, C, and D, the sorrels and roans to E, F, G and H, the blacks to I, K, L and M, and the grays to the band.

We have now, in the narrative, arrived at the end of 1861, and

all the troops have departed, and the camp now a mere shell. The only visible things are the sheds that were erected for the horses, the tent floors left by officers, and the storehouse.

In my further relation of events, I shall not go so fully into detail, for cogent reasons. Of the regiments now departed for the seat of war, the 18th, 20th and 24th, and the 1st Cavalry, much might be narrated. Men in each achieved distinction and each regiment had an experience peculiarly its own. Capt. Carroll of the 18th was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, August 30, 1862, and died upon the battle-field three days later. Again, the 18th Regiment, in the Fall of 1861, was given a French uniform complete, including, beside the French uniform, tents, mess chests, etc. This singular event was said to have been because of extraordinary proficiency in drill. I find that three regiments only participated in this remarkable gift, one of each of the three brigades of Gen. Fitz John Porter's division. The other regiments were the 44th New York and the 33d Pennsylvania. You ask what use could be made of such a gift, and well you may. The gift was bestowed at Hall's Hill, Va. Much fun was created. The men could not wear the uniforms nor use the accompaniments, being in active service, so they were soon boxed and sent to the storehouse at Norfolk. Some succeeded in obtaining them again, and many sent home parts of the gift. The company from Middleboro is said to have obtained them intact, and wore them on their arrival home, marching through Boston, attracting a deal of attention.

1862.

Our camp at Readville remains vacant, silent and solemn until August, when under the call of 2d of July for 300,000, we find at Readville the 9th and 11th Batteries and the 42d, 43d, 44th and 45th Regiments. The four regiments are nine months men, and it is currently reported that they are to go together to North Carolina, but such did not prove to be the case.

A 44th man thus expressed himself: "We arrived here the 29th of August, about 4 P. M., and here our trouble began. We had either come too soon or the carpenters had been too lazy,

for only three of the ten barracks were roofed and some were not even boarded."

I will ask my hearers to mentally note that these were the first barracks built, and in August, 1862, and on the west side, and for the 44th Regiment. Simultaneously a set were built on the east side for the 45th. He then continues: "So while the carpenters were at work outside, we went at it inside, putting up and fixing the bunk. A load of straw arrived at sunset."

I will here remark that the Quartermaster, Capt. McKim (now Judge of Probate), employed William Bullard, of Readville, as one of his agents to procure straw, hay, wood, etc. This 44th man, who was quite prolific in language (and I feel thankful that he was), said further: "We are on the ground between the Providence Railroad and New England Railroad, south of the junction."

It affords me pleasure to present this association with the other photographs, one embracing these ten barracks, the first that were here erected, and in the picture is also the Tower house.

Again the 44th man says: "The field is just east of the embankment of the N. Y. & N. E. R. R. The barracks are nearly at right angles with the railroad. Marched to the pond to wash our faces."

A letter of the 6th of September shows a friendly rivalry between the companies in the matter of flag poles, and a letter of the 13th admits that Company D's flagstaff is entitled to the prize, and that the boys have christened the several barracks with romantic names, such as "Squirrel's Nest," "Sleeping Beauties," "Penquin's Nest," "Damon and Pythias," "Siamese Twins," etc.

The 44th man says, "Our first night was a jolly one. Poor devils who depend upon good sleep and a good deal of it for what vitality they can muster, might probably have sworn. Not that the boys were riotous, not even obstreperous, but simply jolly. The inside musical performance opened with a barnyard chorus by the entire company, and this was followed by a rapid and unintermittent succession of dog, hog, cat and rooster solos, duets, quartettes, both single and combined, until the arrival of an officer, who unfortunately had no ear for music."

On the 8th of September, 1862, I find the first mention of "Camp Meigs," and in connection with the fact of the arrival at Readville of a company from Dedham for one of the nine months Regiments. This company started from Temperance Hall, Dedham, and a procession was formed of all the five engine companies ; next were young ladies from the grammar school, the selectmen, recruiting committee, and citizens, the whole led by the West Dedham Brass Band, and marshalled by Sheriff Thomas, mounted on a rebel horse captured at Fair Oaks. They all marched to Readville. They were formally received by Col. Holbrook and men of the 43d Regiment.

On the 9th of September, Governor Andrew, by his Special Order No. 790, appointed Brig. Gen. Richard A. Pierce, of the State Militia, Commandant of Camp Meigs, Readville, as a military rendezvous.

The 9th Battery having left for the seat of war on the 3d of September, the troops at Readville found by Gen. Pierce to be under his command were the 11th Battery, 42d, 43d, 44th and 45th Regiments. Gen. Pierce established his headquarters near the station, and appointed his staff, taking nearly all from the State militia.

The photograph of the barracks of the 44th was taken on the 25th of September, 1862, and shows the flags at half mast. They were thus because of the funeral in Boston of Lieut. Col. Dwight of the 2d Mass., who had died of wounds. Six companies of the 44th attended the funeral. The barracks of the 45th are mentioned under date of the 27th of September by a 44th man, as having been constructed with more regard for light and air than were those of the 44th. This establishes the fact that the barracks of these two regiments were built simultaneously or nearly so.

The first to leave after Gen. Pierce took command was the 11th Battery, Major Jones, who died recently in Boston. They left on the 3d of October, and on the 22d the 44th left and on the 5th of November the 43d and 45th left. This left the 42d in sole possession, and they at once occupied the barracks vacated by

the 44th, and a little later were pleased to receive the 47th Regiment on the 11th, from Camp Stanton, Boxford, where they had been organized. They had been sent to Readville, where they could be better quartered.

And now we have two regiments only, the 42d and the 47th, both nine months regiments. At this time the weather had become so cold that stoves were set up in the barracks.

The stay of either of these two regiments was short, for the 42d left on the 21st of November and the 47th on the 30th.

Again we are viewing a vacant camp; again it is silent, solemn, desolate, but not like the end of 1861, for now there are two sets of barracks, one upon either side of the railroad.

1863.

The year 1863 starts in quite lively, the very first to organize and start for the seat of war from Camp Meigs being the 13th Battery, on the 20th of January, and this was soon followed by a detachment of about 350 for the 2d Cavalry on the 12th of February, and on the 9th of March the 15th Battery left, followed on the 11th of May by the rest of the 2d Cavalry.

Meantime the 54th Regiment had begun to form. This regiment was the first colored regiment organized in a northern state. Gov. Andrew received his authority to organize colored regiments in January, 1863, and apparently the first to arrive at Readville came on February 21st, and the twenty-seven men were assigned to the barracks first occupied by the 44th. This regiment had a unique experience. The twenty-seven men on the 21st of February had increased to 324 by the 21st of March and the regiment was filled and left Readville on the 28th of May, being sent to the Department of the South to operate against Charleston. Robert G. Shaw, who was made its colonel, was, with other young officers, chosen because of their firm anti-slavery principles, of their ambition, because they were superior to a vulgar contempt for color, and because of their military experience. The presentation of the flags, by Governor Andrew, on the 18th of May, was peculiarly impressive, the Governor taking occasion

to speak at length, and the occasion was otherwise marked. The regiment went to the Department of the South, in which department I was serving. They had been in the department but a short time when they were called to battle upon James Island, and following this, were suddenly called to Morris Island, and engaged on the evening of the 18th of July, 1863, in that memorable assault upon Fort Wagner. This regiment was placed in the forefront. My own regiment, the 3d New Hampshire, was also a part of the assaulting column. In the thick of the fight Colonel Shaw was killed, and next day buried in a trench, with the men whom he had led to their death. The beautiful monument upon Boston Common, opposite the State House, will testify to all generations to the valor of Colonel Shaw and his regiment. A school was established shortly after the close of the war, in Charleston, S. C., for colored children, in his honor, and named the Shaw Memorial School, and the city of Boston has also named one of its schools in the West Roxbury District in his honor. And thus the name and fame of Col. Robert G. Shaw are properly and appropriately perpetuated.

The 54th Regiment had scarcely gotten away when recruits for the 55th, also colored, began to assemble at Readville.

The next day, after the departure of the 54th, May 28th, the 11th Battery, Major Jones, returned from the seat of war, their term having expired. This marks the first return of the kind to Readville, and we must now be prepared to receive returning troops, as well as to bid God-speed to the departing. The 44th returned on the 18th of June, the 45th on the 8th of July, the 43d the 30th of July, the 42d the 20th of August, and the 47th on the 1st of September. Meantime the departures have been, on the 21st of July the 55th Mass., which was sent at once to the Department of the South and served with its mate — the 54th. The other departures for the year were the 2d Heavy Artillery on the 5th of September, four companies, and the two companies of the same regiment on the 7th of November.

In July occurred the trouble in Boston, New York, and other places, called the "draft riots." Boston dealt at once with the

case and in a manner producing the desired result. The Governor ordered General Pierce to send the men then in camp at Readville — men for the 2d Regiment Heavy Artillery and for the 2d Cavalry — to proceed to Boston at once by rail to maintain the peace of the city which was threatened with violence. Colonel Frankle (now of Haverhill) was placed in command of these men.

Thus, it may be seen that the camp at Readville furnished the armed force that suppressed this miniature rebellion in Boston, denominated in history as the "Draft Riot," and the command to fire the gun that dispersed the rioters was given by an officer from Readville.

Nothing further of interest occurred during 1863, and at the end we find the 1st Cavalry, 4th Cavalry, 56th, 58th, 59th, 11th Battery, 13th Heavy Artillery, and 5th Cavalry (colored.)

1864.

January 1st. But three camps now in Massachusetts: Camp Meigs, 2,270; Long Island, 1,086; Camp Wool, Worcester, 300; a total of 3,656.

On the 4th of February there were nearly 4,000 men in Camp Meigs, and on that day General Burnside reviewed them, accompanied by Governor Andrew and General Devens, each with his staff. A special train brought the reviewing party, arriving about 2 P. M., Jones' Battery fired a salute of thirteen guns.

The position of the troops was as follows: 4th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry, Milton street; 59th Regiment, 11th Battery, near barracks; 56th regiment, 13th Heavy Artillery, near barracks; 5th Cavalry, 58th regiment, west of railroad. Total 3,879.

#### THE STORY OF THE HOSPITAL.

In June, 1864, the barracks at Readville were ordered to be turned over to the Medical Department for conversion into a hospital. The barracks being in two groups, one east of the Providence Railroad, and the other west of it, I assumed that General Pierce exercised his judgment as to the scope of the order, and turned over to the medical department only those upon the east

side of the railroad, consisting of quarters for two full regiments, i. e., twenty barracks.

Barracks on the east side had been provided, up to that time, for only two regiments, but the barracks at Lakeville, near Middleboro, for the 3d and 4th regiments, then entirely out of use, were taken in pieces and removed to Readville by rail and there set up again. Consequently there were forty barracks as well as other buildings ready for conversion into a hospital. It shows that the cook-houses and officers' quarters were placed at the ends of the barracks, and thus forming porches, one at either end of the forty barracks, now wards, with a capacity of 1,000 patients. I find that the largest number was about 700 at any one time. All the accessories, whether of material, of buildings, or of medical officers, were supplied to make this a first class hospital, which finally embraced a library, gymnasium and chapel.

Again in 1864, a movement was started and gained some headway to have sick and wounded men transferred from the various hospitals to those in the states where they belonged by enlistment, and the establishment of this hospital at Readville was apparently in furtherance of that object. Dr. Frederick H. Gross was placed in charge. He was a surgeon of large experience. He had been with General Thomas, had been at Camp Parole, had been at various other points where ordered and needed, and his selection for this post was a wise one. At various times I find on duty with him as assistant surgeons: Doctors S. W. Langmaid, F. H. Brown, F. C. Ropes, George S. Stebbins, R. R. Clarke, J. G. Wilbur, G. S. Osborne, and as hospital steward, H. H. A. Beach, now Dr. Beach of Boston, and connected officially with the Massachusetts General Hospital. Doctors Gross, Clarke, Osborne, Wilbur, and Ropes have all died. As survivors, I find Dr. S. W. Langmaid, a throat specialist of Boston; Dr. Stebbins, Springfield; Dr. Francis H. Brown, Boston; Dr. Beach of Massachusetts General Hospital. I also find a son of Dr. Gross — Dr. Hermon W. Gross, surgeon at the Fore River ship yards, Quincy.

As to the work and capacity of the hospital, I find that in the middle of September, 1864, 350 convalescents were sent to the



field, and a little later about 400. On the 13th of December, 1864, there were 498 sick and 498 wounded, a total of 996. Early in May, 1865, there were 478 patients, cared for by 78 attendants, and on the 3d of June, 1865, there were 376 patients.

The guard duty, as was the custom, was by a company (B) of the V. R. C., and there were received in all 4,080 patients.

Of the many operations at this hospital, one requiring more skill than perhaps any other was that performed upon Private Paron C. Young, Company B, 3d Massachusetts Cavalry and now living in Provincetown, Mass. He had been severely wounded in the neck at Cedar Creek. He arrived at Readville, January 2d, 1865, and was at once reported upon the dangerous list. Four days later Dr. Langmaid performed tracheotomy upon him; and at a moment when he was presumed by the attendants to be dead, Dr. Langmaid knew better, and the result was that the man was almost literally snatched from the grave. A silver tube was inserted, and in all these years Comrade Young has breathed through it, and when he speaks, a hand is pressed in the proper place to permit speech.

On July 1st, 1865, it was ordered, the war having ended, that the hospital be discontinued, and the patients transferred to the Dale General Hospital at Worcester, and these orders were carried out with very little delay. The hospital having been discontinued, the supplies, such as beds, bedding, clothing and medicines were advertised to be sold at public auction on the 4th of October, but owing to the inability of Dr. Edgar, the Medical Officer (detained at Portsmouth Grove Hospital, R. I.,) who had special charge of the sale, was postponed to Monday, the 9th, when the sale took place. Mr. McGilvray, of Boston, was the auctioneer.

Having abruptly left my audience to trace the hospital, I now return to Camp Meigs. It must be borne in mind that upon the creation of the hospital, there became two distinct establishments, the hospital, wholly east of the Providence Railroad, and the camp, wholly west of said railroad. The latter comprised a set of ten barracks only, and it was in and near these ten barracks that all military operations were thereafter conducted, whether of de-

parting troops or of returning troops, and General Pierce had no authority in or with the hospital.

During 1864 there were so many organizations departing and others returning for muster out, that it is quite impracticable to more than mention them.

In this year there were organized at Readville about 27 companies of 100 men each, designated as "Unattached," and known by the numbers 1 to 27. These were, up to and including the company numbered 13, for ninety days, then up to and including No. 23 for 100 days, and Nos. 24, 25, 26 and 27 for one year. These companies were all for service within the state, notably on the coast, and were variously sent to Fall River, New Bedford, Provincetown, Salem, Marblehead, Gallups' Island, Fort Warren, Fort Independence and Gloucester. During the year 1864 the following companies left Camp Meigs:

January 8th, 2d Heavy Artillery (six companies); February 5th, 11th Battery; March 7th, 13th Heavy Artillery; 20th, 56th Regiment; 26th, 4th Cavalry (part); April 19th, 16th Battery; 24th, 4th Cavalry (part); 25th, 14th Battery; 26th, 59th Regiment; 28th, 58th regiment; May 6th, 5th Cavalry; August 1st, 60th Regiment (100 days). Unattached Companies: 90 day men, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, and 13th; 100 day men, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd; one year, 18th (re-organized).

Returned in 1864: 6th August 6th Unattached; 27th October 6th Regiment (100 days); 12th November 17th Unattached; 16th November 5th Regiment (100 days); 26th November 23rd Unattached. Returned in 1865: 12th May 18th Unattached; 12th May 26th Unattached; 12th June 5th Battery; 13th June 39th Massachusetts; 15th June 14th Battery; 16th June 11th Battery; 19th June 36th Massachusetts; 29th June 1st Cavalry; 30th June 40th Massachusetts; 2nd July 33d Massachusetts; 2nd July 37th Massachusetts; 6th July 34th Massachusetts; 12th July 23rd Massachusetts; 19th July 27th Massachusetts; 22nd July 56th Massachusetts; 26th July 2nd Massachusetts; 26th July 58th Massachusetts; 28th July 20th Massachusetts; 28th July 25th Massachusetts; 4th August 15th Battery; 9th August 57th Massachusetts; 9th August 59th Massachusetts.

It will be remembered that the medical supplies were sold on the 9th of October. The sale of the property used by the hospital, but actually belonging to the Quartermaster's Department, such as 217 stoves, six army ranges, horses, harnesses, wagons, etc., were sold on the 23d of October by Samuel Hatch, auctioneer. Next follows the sale of the buildings at Camp Meigs west of the railroad, on the 4th of January, 1866, consisting of ten barracks, ten cook houses, four officers' quarters, hospital building, guard house, four stables, three forage houses, in all about 280,000 feet of lumber, sold for \$3,100.

1866.

On the 13th of January, 1866, the *Dedham Gazette* announced that Mr. Ebenezer Paul had sold his entire farm to Charles A. White for the sum of \$20,000, including the old camp ground. "We had hoped," said the editor, "that the ground would have been consecrated to some public purpose."

Next came the Quartermaster's sale, 26th June, 1866, by Samuel Hatch, auctioneer, of the hospital buildings, forty of them 73x22 and twenty 46x15, seventy-one buildings in all, embracing store-houses, kitchens, laundry, etc. A conspiracy among the buyers was checkmated by the Quartermaster. The buildings brought from \$50 to \$400 each. The chapel, built and owned by the state, sold for \$480. Total sale, \$12,895.94.

Although the sale of the land was in January, 1866, we do not find the deed recorded until the 12th of April, 1867. The delay of over a year in date and delivery of deed was, by inference, caused by the peculiar will previously mentioned.

#### MEMORANDA.

1884. January 1. Deed Francis Bryant to Readville Homestead Association 1,665 feet.

1890. Hamilton Park Association organized.

1894. Changed to Meigs Memorial Association.

1897. May 30. Flag pole and guns dedicated, Post 121 G. A. R. officiating.

1903. January 4. Name of Hamilton Park changed to Meigs Memorial Park.

## IN CONCLUSION.

Let me say that Hyde Park may well be proud of its delightful suburb, proud that so historic a spot is an integral part of the town. Proud may the dwellers at Readville be, for here, beneath our very feet, nearly fifty years ago, thousands marched up and down and upon this plain. The rattle of musketry, the bugle's blast, the rat-a-tat-tat of the drum, the clanking of the sabre, the neighing steed and the roar of cannon became familiar sounds.

Here the very flower of the youth of this good old Commonwealth of ours gathered themselves together as a mighty phalanx. Here they learned the art of war, bade fond mother and father, or wife, the sad good bye and marched away. Thousands never came back; other thousands perished upon the battle-field, or in the hospital or the dreadful southern prison. Yet other thousands of the wounded and the sick were sent here to the hospital that they might be near to those they loved and that they might be tenderly nursed.

May these memories, these facts, be kept green, and may the Meigs Memorial Association slack not its hand, but see to it that this and coming generations who make their homes here shall know that this is historic ground, that here was the largest military camp in New England, that soldiers went forth from here to a war such as no man had ever seen. And to you specially, as members of the Meigs Memorial Association, let me say, keep the subject of devotion to country before the people, fling the banner of the free to the breeze from yonder flagstaff upon every proper occasion, and keep bright the names of Meigs, and Shaw, and Carroll, till the last member will have drawn the drapery of his couch about him, and lain down to pleasant dreams. And finally, I offer you one and all, this sentiment:

To the soldiers who went from Readville,

For all they were,  
For all they did,  
For all they dared,  
All honor forever  
And for aye.

## BIRDS OF HYDE PARK

BY HARRY G. HIGBEE

The inherent love of nature, born in every man, gives itself expression in various ways. Some will stand transfixed before a roaring cataract, lost in wonder at its mighty power. Others will find a peculiar charm in the study of the flowers and trees, and will be lured away by them to many pleasant and profitable hours spent in the woods and fields. Still others will sit by the hour at the seashore, watching the great waves come rolling and tumbling in upon the rocks, or gathering the tiny shells and mosses which abound along the beach. But whatever our particular hobby may be in the study of nature, there is that same charm and fascination which lures us on to investigate farther and farther into her hidden secrets, until we are lost in wonder and admiration at the marvellous works of the Almighty. The works of man are wonderful, but his most noble achievement is as nothing, when compared with the simplest flower, or the minutest form of animal life, in its beauty and perfection.

Nature opens up to us like a great book. We have but to study her in earnest and she will reveal to us many wonderful things. This study broadens our minds. It presents to us new avenues of thought, and new fields of pleasure; aside from the value of the healthful exercise which it brings to us, by the outdoor life and fresh air which comes from the pursuit of these studies—for nature should be studied first hand, in the woods and fields, and not from books, save only as a guide to identification, and to assist in personal investigation.

Nature study is now considered as a part of the child's education, and its adoption is becoming general throughout the public schools. The study of birds is an important branch of this general

topic, as they are of great economical value to us in keeping in check obnoxious insects as well as adding so much to the life about us by their beauty and song.

In studying the bird-life of any given section, the topography of the district must first be considered. There are many things which affect the distribution of the different species, such as climate, elevation, natural surroundings, and general habits of the birds.

While Hyde Park is fairly well proportioned in the variation of its geographical formation, its environment is not so good in this respect as in the towns immediately surrounding us. Consequently, not so great a variety of birds should be expected to be found. Surrounded as it is mostly by hills, this territory forms somewhat of a natural basin, being open on the northerly side toward the sea coast, from which it is about eight miles distant. Its elevation is slight, having no very high hills within its borders. Its area is about five square miles and it contains no large ponds, but the surface is pretty well broken up with swamps, small fields, meadows, and rocky hills. About a third of the area is wooded. The Neponset river, flowing through the town, is our only waterway, save a few smaller streams, and gives us a direct outlet to the coast. At the southern end of the town are large marshes, extending for some miles through the towns of Milton, Dedham and Canton; only a small portion of these meadows, however, coming within our borders. Consequently, few water birds are found here. To the west of us lies West Roxbury, entirely wooded along our border. These woods were the haunts of the naturalist Samuels, in the early sixties, and it was here that he procured much of the material for his well-known book, the "Birds of New England." To the north is Boston, and to the east Milton; both mostly residential near the boundaries.

Within this section have been recorded, as far as I have been able to ascertain, one hundred and fifty-one varieties of birds. These might be divided roughly into six groups. Twenty-four may be considered rare or accidental in this vicinity; thirty-three may be classified as scarce; twenty-five are migrants, and are

simply here for a short period in the spring and fall, on their way farther north, or south, as the case may be. Of those remaining, fifty-two are summer residents only, seven are winter residents only, and ten are permanent, or all-the-year-round residents. Of these one hundred and fifty-one varieties, I have observed personally one hundred and forty-one, having kept records and notes on the same for the past twelve years.

We will now take up in the order mentioned, these six groups. First, I will give some records of those which I have classed as rare, numbering twenty-four species as follows:

A dickcissel, or black-throated bunting, is recorded from Hyde Park in 1878 and Readville 1879. The usual habitat of this species, however, is in the middle states.

A prothonotary warbler was taken here on May 21, 1892.

A green-crested flycatcher was taken here with its nest and three eggs in June, 1888, and is the only specimen of this bird ever recorded from Massachusetts, being a more southern species.

The arctic three-toed woodpecker was abundant about Boston in 1860, and has been recorded from Hyde Park.

A saw-whet owl was taken here five or six years ago by Mr. Fred Downey, of this town.

A dovekie, or little auk, was found dead in the Fairmount district in 1902. A large flight of these birds was noted about here in September, 1872, and were probably driven in by a severe storm, as they are usually found only on the coast, and much farther north than this latitude.

A Bicknell's thrush, a bird usually found from northern Maine northward, was taken here on May 25, 1905, by Mr. Walter Zappey of Roslindale. Mr. Zappey has also taken the following rare birds here: Two alder flycatchers, which he took in the migrations of 1900, and a leach's petrel, which he found dead, floating in the Neponset river about ten years ago. The petrels are all ocean wanderers and this bird must have been blown in by a severe storm.

A yellow-bellied flycatcher was also taken here in the spring of 1900,

An orchard oriole was taken the same season by F. E. Webster, others being seen at the same time.

American herring gulls, kittewakes, and common terns are birds which I have rarely seen within our borders, being birds of the coast and occasionally driven inland by severe northeast storms.

The red-breasted merganser I have taken once on the Neponset meadows. This is a common bird on the coast. I also observed a least bittern on these marshes on one occasion. This was probably a not uncommon bird here years ago.

The snowflake I have seen here but once. This was during the severe winter of 1903-4, when I watched four of these birds for some time, feeding in the road near the Grew School. Mr. Zappey also observed a flock here about a week later. They are usually common on the coast, where they spend the winter.

The Connecticut warbler, Tennessee warbler, mourning warbler and bay-breasted warbler I have also taken here, but they are all rare.

The Lincoln's sparrow I have observed only once, and the house wren but once. This latter, however, was probably plentiful formerly, breeding in bird boxes until these places were usurped by the English sparrow.

I have also one record of the English goldfinch. I took a specimen of this bird on August 3, 1897. It was in company with another of the same species in the woods, and while it might possibly have been an escaped cage bird, yet the plumage showed no traces of it, and I believe that it was a wild bird, as it is known that a number of these birds have been introduced in different parts of the country.

Of the thirty-three species spoken of as scarce, the greater number are migrants, and are rather irregular in their visitations to this locality. These include such birds as the hairy woodpecker, gray-cheeked thrush, black-throated blue warbler, Wilson's warbler, and Blackburnian warbler. Others are found, perhaps fairly abundant in nearby towns, but the conditions are not just right for their habitat here.



As an instance of this, the long-billed marsh wren is found breeding plentifully on the Neponset marshes, but there being but a small part of these meadows within the limits of our town, the birds are therefore scarce here, as there are no similar conditions in any other portion of the town. With the warbling vireo the case is similar. This bird prefers the shelter of the great elm trees, such as are common along the roadsides of Milton. Here it hangs its pendant nest from the tip end of some long limb, and among its wide-spreading branches it finds ample food supply in the way of insects. Here it lives contentedly, warbling its sweet song throughout the day. Similar conditions would make these birds plentiful in our town. Other birds, as the woodcock and the purple martin, were formerly plentiful, but now, for various reasons, are scarce. Still others, as the pine siskin, redpoll, and pine grosbeak, are irregular winter visitants, appearing some seasons in considerable numbers, and perhaps not again for six or eight years.

The scarcity of birds is dependent upon many things and cannot always be accounted for. A few years ago the bluebirds became suddenly scarce and remained so for two or three years, causing general alarm among bird lovers throughout the state, lest this, the most loved, perhaps, of all the common birds, on account of its endearing associations, should be doomed to follow in the path of the wild pigeon, which formerly roamed over this country in countless thousands, but is now practically extinct. Our fears were, however, happily without foundation, for the bluebird has re-appeared and is now as plentiful as ever. There was also a general scarcity of birds of all kinds during the season of 1903-04. Heavy storms prevailed during the spring migrations and in the early breeding season, causing the destruction of thousands of birds, especially those nesting near the ground. These conditions prevailed generally throughout the state. Purple martins were nearly exterminated in many places. The unusual severity of the following winter was also destructive to bobwhites and ruffed grouse, making them scarce the following season. The result of such conditions are entirely overcome, however, in a reasonable length of time, and nature again resumes her former balance.

The English sparrow is doubtless responsible for the scarcity of a number of birds which were formerly abundant about our houses. They have been driven back to places where, perhaps, they are more secure from their natural enemies. In this connection we must also consider the individual variation in species. Birds are like human beings. They have their likes and their dislikes, and while all birds of a given species follow, in a general way, the same custom, they are capable of a remarkable adaptability to change of circumstances; even, in some cases, changing their entire mode of living to suit the surroundings. This of course, would cause certain species to become scarce in places where they were formerly plenty. An instance of this change is shown by the breeding of the chimney swift, a bird which is supposed to have formerly bred in hollow trees in the depths of the forest, but now that the forests have been largely cut away in many places, it has adapted itself to the change, by nesting in chimneys. Last year I spent a month in the wilderness of northeastern Maine. Here I found chimney swifts plenty about the lakes, where they were probably twenty-five miles from a human habitation, and I have every reason to believe that they were breeding here in the forest, as they probably did centuries ago.

Another thing to consider is the extreme restricted locality of some birds, while others are found over an extended area. In this relation I will mention the prairie warbler. I know of only two limited districts in Hyde Park where one would be likely to find these birds, yet they cannot be considered scarce, as I could nearly always find them by going to either of these places. The yellow-breasted chat is a bird of similar habits and its range is likewise extremely limited.

We must know, then, something of the nature and habits of a bird to know where to look for it. These facts, however, apply principally to the nesting habits, as in migrating many species are often found associated in the same flock, which ordinarily have nothing in common, and are also found in places totally unlike their usual habitat.

This leads to the consideration of the migrating birds. I

mean the birds which ordinarily simply pass through this locality, going north in the spring, and again going south in the fall. Of course nearly all the birds migrate from summer to winter quarters. Even with those which we call permanent residents, it is not always the same individuals which are present with us the year round.

The migrating of birds has always been one of the greatest problems of the bird student, and is today as unsolved in many respects as it was a hundred years ago. Because it is so mysterious it is therefore interesting and fascinating to study. Of these great questions concerning migrations, I will not attempt to speak, as this discussion in itself would make a lengthy document.

Our opportunity for studying the migrating birds is necessarily limited to a very few weeks, and sometimes to a few days in a season. Perhaps they are here one day and gone the next, and it is difficult in the time we have, to become very well acquainted with their songs and habits. Severe storms often drive migrating birds far from their course, destroying many, and causing others to wander to places outside of their usual range. The month of May is the usual time of the spring migrations in this locality; from the fifteenth to the twenty-fifth being the time of the greatest flight. Most of our birds migrate at night, resting and feeding during the day-time, and one may often hear the chirps of a passing flock on a warm night in the spring or fall. The food supply has much to do with the length of their stay. Also if the weather is not favorable the flight will be short.

Probably the most notable example of migration which we have is the flight of the Canadian goose. They usually migrate in the day-time, but often at night, like our smaller birds. Who does not recognize the loud honk! honk-a-honk! of this noble bird as he comes northward in the spring, the immense V-shaped flocks stretching across the sky? What a fine general is the old gander at the head of the flock, to preserve such perfect order and to guide them safely on their long journey northward to their summer home!

Our principal migrants here are some of the thrushes, sparrows,

and warblers, and of the twenty-five species mentioned, I will speak of three as interesting cases.

The red-breasted nuthatch is a common migrant, especially in the fall, and occasionally remains throughout the winter.

The Wilson's thrush is not uncommon in the spring, usually remaining here about a week. I have no doubt, however, that it sometimes breeds in this locality, as I have found it nesting in similar places nearby.

The blue-headed or solitary vireo is one of our spring and fall migrants, though not very abundant, and on one occasion I observed it nesting here. It was remarkably tame, I remember, and allowed me to remove it from its nest with my hand. An especially large flight of warblers was noted here in the spring of 1900, and prevailed generally throughout the state. This flight lasted from the ninth of May to the fifth of June. Fifty-two species I have classed as summer residents. These, of course, are the birds with which we are most familiar, as our opportunity for studying them is so much greater than with the others mentioned. They represent many different classes and families. Some, as the Baltimore oriole, red-eyed vireo, chipping sparrow, yellow warbler, and robin, are social fellows, preferring to make their haunts about our houses, or in the shade trees along our streets, and rarely venture very far into the woods. Others, like the kingbird, purple finch, least flycatcher, and bluebird, must be sought for in the orchards and fields. Still others, like some of the hawks, bittern, rails, swamp sparrow, and brown thrasher — birds which are more shy and retiring, must be looked for in the deep recesses of the woods and swamps, as they seem to avoid as much as possible the society and haunts of man.

What an endless variety is here presented to us for thought and study, or for pleasant recreation. You may watch the chimney swift as it hovers over the top of a dead tree, breaking off the twigs with which it builds its nest, never once alighting during the whole operation; or you may float down the river in a canoe through the marshes just at dusk, and if you sit motionless as a statue you will doubtless see the rails come silently out from

among the rushes and run about on the mud flats in search of insects, for they have been asleep all day and are just coming out for their nightly jaunt and revelry ; but if you make a motion, however slight, back they will dart into the shelter of the rushes, only to reappear, however, in a few moments. Or again, you may sit by the hour some beautiful May morning on the side of a rocky hill and watch the red-tailed hawk, as it soars majestically in ever-widening circles, rising higher and higher, till it is finally lost to vision in its dizzy height. One of these birds has been known to soar for five hours without once alighting. Who would suspect the great blue heron of such a trick as this ? Yet I one day saw one of these great birds rise up from the marsh, and launching itself into the air, it circled about, soaring with all the dignity and majesty of a hawk, rising up until it was a mere speck in the sky and finally disappearing altogether. Each bird has its own peculiar habits, and how remarkably it is adapted in form and color to its own particular needs. It takes a keen eye indeed to notice the ovenbird sitting within its dome-shaped nest upon the ground among the leaves, or to discover the ruffed grouse standing motionless in the swamp. Its protective coloration is perfect, blending so well with all its surroundings. Watch the woodpecker on the dead stub. What powerful muscles of the head and neck he has, and what a sharp, strong bill to bore deep into the wood for the insects there upon which he feeds. We find many things which puzzle us in the study of these charming creatures. Why does the wood thrush always adorn its nest with strips of old rags or bits of newspaper, woven in among the twigs and roots ? Why does the marsh wren build four or five nests, and then choose the one which it likes best for occupancy ? These and many other questions still remain for us to solve.

The arrival and departure of the summer birds may be looked for at stated periods, but of course will vary somewhat in different sections. A special instance is that of the Baltimore oriole, which makes its appearance every year about the eighth of May, and in the twelve years that I have observed it, has not varied more than three days in the time of its arrival here. The spring of 1899 may

be noted as an early spring, many of the arrivals being much earlier than usual. In some of the species the males arrive first, being from a week to ten days in advance of the females. I have noted this with the bluebirds, flickers and blackbirds. Others, however, particularly the late comers, are already mated upon their arrival here, and enter at once upon their domestic duties.

A few instances of birds failing to migrate are noticed, leading us to believe that food and shelter may be more prominent features in relation to this phenomenon, than is the climate or instinct. There is a certain hill in East Milton which is densely covered on one side with a thick growth of cedars, forming excellent shelter from the cold and storms, and providing a certain amount of food. At the foot of this hill is a spring which remains open throughout the winter. Here, most any day in winter, may be found flocks of robins, flickers, purple finches and myrtle warblers. A bittern has also wintered here for a number of years. Would not more birds remain with us through the winter if the food supply was sufficient? A few of the hawks remain with us through the winter, and occasionally flickers and song sparrows in small numbers.

Just before the departure of our summer birds in the fall, one may often note large flocks along the roadsides, containing robins, sparrows, thrushes and warblers. Thousands of swallows, too, will fill the air, and suddenly in one night they will vanish. We cannot find one the next day, and we are suddenly brought to the realization that summer has really gone.

The varied songs, plumage, and nesting habits give us ample material for study. I remember once finding a song sparrow nesting six feet up in a cedar tree in a high field. Why it chose this site instead of the usual ground nest in the middle of a swamp, I do not know, but it certainly must have been more than instinct, and I firmly believe, from the actions which I have observed in many cases, that birds possess certain powers of reasoning. A peculiar trait I have noted in the ovenbird, is that it is often heard to sing in the middle of the night, and I have also observed this in the indigo bunting, and the swamp sparrow.

Many of our common birds change their plumage in the fall, donning a new coat for their winter wear which is sometimes entirely different from that worn during the breeding season. Who would take the bright-colored goldfinch which we see on our thistles and sunflowers, like a very bit of the sun itself, for the same bird as that sombre, olive-gray fellow, which we see feeding with the flock in the birches by the roadside in winter? The scarlet tanager, too, loses his brilliant coat in the fall, and ere he leaves for his southern home, has donned a coat of dull olive-yellow similar to that worn by his mate during the breeding season.

Our winter residents are somewhat erratic in their appearance here. The slate-colored junco, tree sparrow, white-breasted nuthatch, golden-crowned kinglet, and brown creeper, may be met with most any winter's day in the woods, but the American and the white-winged crossbills are irregular visitants from the far north. During the severe winter of 1903-'04 these northern birds were much in evidence about here. Pine grosbeaks were also abundant for the first time in ten years.

How you laugh as you watch the nuthatch, as he clammers about the trunk of the tree in search of insects. He will jump broadside around the trunk, or head first down its perpendicular sides, with as much ease as he will either forward or backward. He apparently pays not the slightest heed to the laws of gravity, or equilibrium. You marvel, too, at the tiny golden-crowned kinglet, not much larger than a humming-bird, and wonder how he can withstand the severe cold. But how happy he is, flitting gaily about, finding his food among the pine and cedar trees, and now and then giving vent to his contented feelings, with a faint but cheery whistle. He is never still for an instant, and as he tips downward on the end of a cone, you catch glimpses of his pretty golden crown.

Adding our list of permanent residents to those which are winter visitants only, we have about seventeen species of which we might hope to make the acquaintance under favorable circumstances, in a winter's season.

There is probably more or less migrating of those birds which

we call residents. While the crow, for instance, is with us the year round, it is found in much smaller numbers in the winter than during the summer months. This is evidenced by the large flocks observed in both the spring and fall migrations.

On the whole I consider the birds as plentiful in this locality as they were ten years ago, and I have found their study a particularly fascinating one. Their acquaintance may be cultivated and their presence encouraged about the house, by providing food for them, especially in winter and in severe weather, and they should be protected by all lawful and proper means. It is not difficult for anyone to find and study the birds. During a walk of about two hours in the migrating season last spring, I observed forty-three varieties.

In conclusion, I would say that if you really want to know anything about the birds of Hyde Park, go out into the woods and fields at daybreak, and listen to their songs, or watch their home life in their native haunts. Make them your friends, and you will soon find that you have not only learned their habits and their songs, but that you have added to your resources, to your health, and to your pleasure, and that you are better prepared to go forth to solve the difficult problems of the day's work.





FRANK BOWMAN RICH



## FRANK BOWMAN RICH

At a meeting of the Curators of the Hyde Park Historical Society, Mr. Erastus Edward Williamson, who was the postmaster of "Fairmount" in 1864 and 1865, Mr. H. S. Bunton, and Mr. S. E. Newell, were appointed a committee to prepare suitable resolutions on the death of the late Mr. Frank Bowman Rich. On behalf of the committee, Mr. Williamson reported as follows :

IN MEMORIAM  
FRANK BOWMAN RICH  
BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1860  
DIED JANUARY 17, 1907

Mr. President :—

The wise author of Ecclesiastes gave to the world a great truth when he wrote that "There is a time to be born and a time to die." The circumstances which surround one's birth have, in most cases, wide influence in moulding the character and shaping the destiny of the individual. The year 1860—the year of our departed friend's birth—was one of tremendous unrest and anxiety to the American people, both in the North and in the South. The people of the North, and those of this ancient commonwealth in perhaps a special sense, were filled with gloomy forebodings. Civil war was soon to burst with almost the velocity of a meteor's glare. The peaceful little village of Fairmount and Hyde Park, with only five years' brief and unimportant history as a settlement, was soon to be the close neighbor of a warlike military camp, and, instead of its local energies being centered on the development of the new enterprise of building here on the banks of the "Neponset" a beautiful and flourishing town, its citizens are watching with profound anxiety the dark cloud which was appearing in the nation's sky, and which was so soon to burst in the most awful war-tempest. A dark pall hung not only over Massa-

chusetts, but over the entire country; and this peaceful locality, so lavishly favored by our Creator by its undulating scenery, was soon to become the camping ground of the volunteer patriot soldiers.

Fairmount was the eastern part of the county, barely seven or eight miles from the State House, surrounded by the grandly beautiful and historic territory of old Dorchester, Milton, Roxbury and Dedham, including some of the finest suburbs of New England's metropolis. One could stand on Fairmount Hill, and the eyes could sweep across the lower harbor of Boston on the east, to the Blue Hills, which shut the horizon on the southeast, and away over the velvet-like valley of the Neponset to the south; and over to the west and north were prosperous towns. With such surroundings, on the surpassingly inspiring spot on Summit street, Fairmount, then a part of the rich township of Milton, Frank Bowman Rich was born.

He had excellent parentage. His father, Henry A. Rich, a man of sterling traits of character, born in 1833 in Hardwick, Mass., gave to our lamented friend, whom we hereby seek to honor, many of his habits of industry and his disposition to take interest in everything which had reference to his native village. His mother, Harriet F. Bowman, was born in Warwick, Mass., in 1832. She was of an intellectual cast of mind, and had received early mental training as a teacher in the public schools. It will thus be seen that the early childhood of the late Mr. Rich was guided by honest-hearted and highly intelligent home influences. His mother inculcated into the minds of her children studious habits and a deep love for the little village of Fairmount.

Mr. Rich's boyhood days were passed as might be those of any country-village boy. His was not the farmer-boy life — the best possible early life — but it was life in the country, indeed, and a beautiful country. He was scarcely more than five or six years old when his inherent penchant for gathering interesting items and clippings began to manifest itself, and before he was ten he had gathered interesting and valuable books and documents which bore on the local history of Fairmount, and works of authors

specially calculated to increase his love of home and native heath. In this he was very methodical, a characteristic more fully developed later in life.

"The child is father of the man," says the familiar proverb, and at school he was very industrious and proficient in his studies, and in 1873, at the age of thirteen, he graduated from the Fairmount School, afterward attending the Hyde Park High School. With this educational equipment, not especially remarkable, he entered the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College, of Boston, where he planned to fit himself for a purely mercantile career. But few of the occurrences of the now five-years' old town of Hyde Park escaped his attention. In this characteristic he inherited the industry of his honored father in gathering historical facts and in compiling day by day the most important happenings in this rapidly growing village, so that in later life, when he began to enter into the public affairs of the town, he was the best equipped man in the whole surrounding section regarding the personal and local history of the new municipality.

In 1879, when he was scarcely nineteen, he entered the wholesale dry-goods house of Lewis Coleman & Co., Boston, and began what he fondly supposed was to be a purely commercial career. In this he was to be mistaken. The immortal hymn by Cowper, written more than a century previous, fitly applies to this period in Mr. Rich's life.

"God moves in a mysterious way,  
His wonders to perform."

I have received from the present postmaster of Medford, Mr. J. Henry Norcross, who hired Mr. Rich as a boy, the following interesting letter, which pays fine tribute to the young man then starting out in business life :

"Medford, May 1, 1907.

E. E. WILLIAMSON, Esq.

My dear Sir :

It is quite difficult to give full and strong recollections of Frank B. Rich of Hyde Park, as a member of the firm of Lewis Coleman Co., 9-19 Chauncy street, Boston. I hired him as a boy to learn the wholesale dry and fancy goods business. This must have been nearly thirty years ago. I distinctly

bear him in mind as mature from the very start, applying himself very closely, so noticeable as to receive quite rapid promotion, for he was earnest, ambitious, and a hard worker.

Sincerely yours,

J. HENRY NORCROSS."

As befalls most of us, unforeseen conditions and circumstances changed the whole course and trend of his earthly life. January 1st, 1886, after seven years' service with this firm, he tendered his resignation, and conjointly with his only brother, established the well-known dry goods business in this town under the firm name of Rich Brothers. In connection with his other business relations, he decided to establish a real estate and insurance agency, and in this, also, success to a marked degree crowned his efforts.

Never for a moment did he abandon his favorite pastime — the study of local history — continually gathering a fund of valuable historical facts for the fortunate future historian of this fair inland town.

In 1879 and 1884 his alumni association made him its president, showing that in these small affairs he was popular with his fellow-pupils. Again in 1883 he was influential in organizing the Young Men's Lyceum of Hyde Park, and was the first president of the same. It was this year, also, that he became the president of the Young Men's Republican Club, which really marks his entry into political affairs in Hyde Park.

In connection with his business, in 1883 he was honored by Governor Benjamin F. Butler with an appointment as justice of the peace, and he held that office by reappointment ever afterwards, receiving commissions from Governors Brackett and Wolcott. At the same he was taking great interest in the social life of Hyde Park. In 1884 he was the chief templar of Energetic Lodge, 125, of the Independent Order of Good Templars; but his social obligations and connections did not turn him aside from his pursuit of things nearest to his heart regarding the welfare and history of his town. We find him, in 1885, treasurer of the Republican Town Committee, and chairman of the Fourth of July celebration committee; and also, chief marshal of the parade, thus showing that he was honored by those who had these public matters in charge.

In 1887 he was elected a trustee of Hyde Park Public Library and served in that capacity for three years. On the 15th of March, 1887, he joined the Hyde Park Historical Society, which was organized at that time. All these things indicate his interest in local affairs, and his ambition to be useful to his native town. About this period the most interesting and important fact of his life thus far occurred — his marriage, December 13, 1888, to Miss Emma S. Young, of Jamaica Plain, Mass., and this marriage, which was an exceedingly happy one, covered the period of eighteen years, one month and four days. Three children were the result of this union, and no happier family existed within the limits of our town.

He was soon after, in 1896, appointed a notary public by Governor Greenhalge, and also became a member of Forest Lodge, 184, I. O. O. F., thus still further becoming connected with the manifold social elements of the town, and it may be said that in these fraternal organizations he found congenial companionships, and was ever one of the most popular and most welcome members of the several organizations to which he belonged. His patriotism and public spirit were well-known and appreciated, and it is not to be wondered at that in 1897 Timothy Ingraham Post, 121, G. A. R. elected him an associate member, and the Grand Army boys were always pleased to a high degree with his connection with their membership.

This year, as it proved, was to be a most important one in the life of Mr. Rich, for he was to be chosen to the board of selectmen, the most important position in the government of the town, and was re-elected to that office in 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1904 and 1905, seven terms in all, and was chairman of four boards, those of 1898, 1899, 1904 and 1905.

He was also a member of Eunice Degree Lodge, 149, Daughters of Rebecca, in connection with his Odd Fellowship, and a member of Hyde Park Lodge, 138, Knights of Pythias, being a Past Chancellor, and, also, a member of Uniformed Degree Rank of the same order.

When the Hyde Park National Bank was organized in 1904, he

was chosen a director, and took great pains to secure the first bill issued by the bank, number one of the five-dollar denomination. He served as a director till his death. His church connection was with the Unitarian Society, and when the church edifice was erected he became an active member and retained his interest ever afterward, holding important positions.

Besides engaging in these various activities pertaining to the town, he essayed to enter more largely into the public affairs of the county, and aspired to become a county commissioner, for whose duties he was amply qualified by experience and natural aptitude; and while he did not then succeed in securing the coveted position, still, he made his name more familiar to the district comprising our county, and became acquainted in a larger field of political life.

All these official stations which he held, and the social position he easily attained, gave evidence of the fine, popular traits which he possessed, and had his span of life been lengthened, he would have gained larger opportunity for his abilities. None of us who followed him Patriots' Day, April 19, 1906, as he went from house to house through the Fairmount district, will ever forget the rare judgment he showed in narrating the history of the houses, nor his apt references to the original occupants of the places. His nature had a humorous side, and he could see the peculiarities of temperament and the varied characteristics of the early settlers, with whom he had associated as a boy and young man. Who of us who knew him well can ever forget his bright, penetrating eyes — the great human indicators — as they lighted up and fairly sparkled while he engaged in conversation, or became earnest in advocacy of anything dear to his heart? Hyde Park has seldom had within its borders a brighter or more comprehensive intellect with reference to business intelligence and historic research; and no man ever lived in Hyde Park who loved the town better, or knew more of its people, both early and latterly, or was more universally beloved, and few people would be so deeply mourned at their taking off.

There is a very pathetic side to the sudden death of this dear



friend. We see him in the vigor of health and manhood starting out on a bright morning in January, bidding his wife and children an affectionate good-bye, on the very threshold of his door, and even having them follow him down the walk, little dreaming that it was to be the last earthly greeting.

Nothing could be more pathetic. He could well exclaim with that writer of sweet songs, P. P. Bliss,

"I know not what awaits me,  
God kindly veils my eyes.

\* \* \* \*

Oh blissful lack of wisdom,  
'Tis blessed not to know;  
He holds me with his own right hand,  
And will not let me go."

On January 9, 1907, as he was walking the streets of Boston, in Park Square, he was suddenly stricken with apoplexy, and died January 17th following, at the City Hospital, Boston, never having fully regained consciousness. Thus was brought to a close an active, useful, industrious life. By some, it seems that such a sudden taking off is "untimely," but we hesitate to declare any death "untimely."

In June, 1865, when the whole northern section of our country was in mourning for the death of Abraham Lincoln, Senator Charles Sumner, one of the most distinguished orators of any time in the world's history, began his marvelously eloquent oration on Lincoln with these words, "In the universe of God, there are no accidents, from the fall of a sparrow to the fall of an empire, or the sweep of a planet; all is according to Divine Providence, whose laws are everlasting."

It was no accident that gave to the town of Hyde Park the services of the industrious local historian and patriotic citizen, whose memory we seek to honor, and in the light of what we believe to be God's infinite wisdom, we cannot properly affirm that his sudden and unexpected departure to another life was a mere accident.

“ All is of God! If he but wave his hand,  
 The mists collect, the rains fall thick and loud;  
 Till, with a smile of light on sea and land,  
 Lo! He looks back from the departing cloud.”

The great mysteries of life and death are beyond our frail human knowledge. But this we know, none return who cross with the boatman.

“ For none return from those quiet shores,  
 Who cross with the boatman cold and pale:  
 We hear the dip of the golden oars,  
 We catch a gleam of the snowy sail:  
 And lo! they have passed from our yearning heart,  
 They cross the stream and are gone for aye.

We may not sunder the veil apart  
 That hides from our visions the gates of day:  
 We only know that their barks no more  
 May sail with us over life's stormy sea:  
 Yet, somewhere, I know, on the unseen shore,  
 They watch and beckon and wait for me.”

We, therefore, his fellow citizens, desiring to place upon our records our estimation of his life and character, do hereby adopt this portrayal of his life-work, and the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, in the infinite wisdom and providence of our Heavenly Father, one of our highly esteemed fellow-citizens, who became a valued member of this society at the time of its organization, March 15, 1887, FRANK BOWMAN RICH, has been called suddenly away by death; and,

Whereas, the Hyde Park Historical Society desires to make permanent record of its high regard for and deep appreciation of his many social accomplishments and civic virtues, be it therefore

Resolved: Firstly: That in the death of Frank Bowman Rich, his immediate family has lost a loyal and true husband, who loved and honored his home, and whose affections centered in it; an affectionate and indulgent father, whose profound love for his children called forth the deepest expression of tenderness and the most earnest exhibitions of paternal sacrifice; a brother, who always felt the right brotherly attachment, and indicated it in all his family and business relations; our town a citizen, who was exceedingly patriotic, and who loved with intensity the place of his birth, where he had spent his life, and spared no pains in preserving the precious record, both of persons and of places asso-

ciated with it; a public servant whose integrity and uprightness were never questioned nor doubted; whose ability was conspicuous, and whose industry and painstaking efforts on behalf of Hyde Park will be an enduring and pleasant memory; our townspeople a friend, loyal and confiding always, whose personal presence was an inspiration to good-fellowship and sociability; and lastly and comprehensively, we all are bereft of a modest gentleman, of genial personality and bearing, whose absence from our streets and from places connected with our social life and activities is felt by all who knew him, and his demise is regarded as a severe personal loss to his friends and to this community.

Resolved: Secondly: That the late Mr. Rich's example is an incentive to greater endeavors to build up our town and to augment a patriotic interest in its history and well-being, and to preserve its honorable transactions and local records for the generations to come.

Resolved: Thirdly: That this rehearsal of the dominant features of his career, with the preamble and resolutions, be filed with the records of this Society, and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

Respectfully submitted,

ERASTUS E. WILLIAMSON,

HENRY S. BUNTON,

STILLMAN E. NEWELL.

Committee.

## EDITORIAL

### FICTION AND HISTORY

The American Republic is a nation of readers. Probably no other nation in the world is composed of such omnivorous readers. They may well be styled in the language of Horace, *heluones librorum* — gormandizers of books. The remarkable increase of publications — books, pamphlets, magazines and newspapers — indicates the rapid growth of this habit.

The question may naturally arise, Whence comes it? What is the cause of this wonderful growth of the reading habit? Various circumstances, doubtless, have contributed to this result, but it is perfectly safe to affirm that the principal cause was our civil war of 1861-5. Throughout the entire country some one from almost every family had joined the army and gone to the front. His family and friends were anxious to know what battles were fought and how it fared with the loved one. They therefore began to take the daily newspaper. Before the close of the war the habit of reading the papers was so fully established that it could not be broken off.

A few years before the war the writer was teaching in one of the most intelligent villages in the Old Bay State. At that time there were not half a dozen daily papers taken in the village. Since then the population has probably doubled. A few years ago, on a visit to that village, I inquired of the newsdealer how many daily papers he sold. After looking at his books he informed me that he sold on an average fifty copies of one of the Boston dailies, one hundred and fifty of another and three hundred and fifty of a third, besides local papers and other dailies.

This reading habit has caused a marvelous increase not only in newspapers, but in magazine literature and the entire range of

books of all sorts and upon all subjects. Massachusetts leads the world in public libraries free to all her inhabitants. It will at once be obvious that a large proportion of readers will call for light reading. Fiction will inevitably be the most popular, and hence will constitute a great part of the reading of the masses.

The question, therefore, will naturally arise, What is the effect of this light reading? Much of the popular fiction is chaff, sawdust, no nourishment in it. It is in reality deleterious. The general impression is that light reading tends to deterioration of character. There is much evidence, however, to show that the result is not always in that direction. Those who are really vicious in character will deteriorate, but the majority soon tire of sawdust and seek for something which has nutriment; hence they will refuse Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Wood, and Oliver Optic, and will eventually read Mrs. Stowe, Hawthorne, Dickens, Scott and Stevenson.

After I left college an opportunity offered to buy a bookstore and circulating library, the proprietor having died. I scorned the proposition. A circulating library! Dealing out fiction for servant girls to read? Not I. The business was bought by a quiet, modest man, of good judgment and excellent moral character. Many years after, I had frequent conversations with him relative to the influence of novel reading. He assured me that he had studied the subject carefully, that he had observed the character of the book-takers and noticed the quality of the books taken from time to time by the same persons. He became thoroughly convinced that, where the character of the person was not already bad, undermined, the general tendency was to leave the lower grade of stories and take a better class of literature.

Now, What is, in general, the character of fiction? Fiction is often called stories, novels, romance. It is, in the main, imaginary history and biography. Its character, in one respect, depends upon how closely the narrative clings to nature. Walter Scott was always careful to follow nature. Herein is one of his greatest excellencies. It is related that on one occasion he and a friend strolled around a castle ruin about which he was writing, and he stopped here and there to note the kinds of flowers and shrubs

which grew there. His friend chided him and remarked that one kind of rose would do as well as another in a novel. But the poet author told him that we could not improve on nature, and it is safer to follow the real facts in describing natural scenery.

The substance of most novels is imaginary biography and history as the writer conceives it *might be*. The better class of fiction, especially historical novels, naturally leads to the reading of history, and *that* history is profitable which shows the progress of mankind, the elevation of the human race.

Well-written history is one of the most beneficial departments of human learning, and whatever aids and fosters history is commendable. One important difference in the study of our own country's history compared with the history of European nations, is that the genesis of our story is not involved in obscurity and mixed with myth and legend, as theirs almost invariably is. The sources of history are the chronicles of each and every period. It becomes necessary, therefore, that records should be kept of the life of the people in every decade. This shows something of the importance of the work of local historical societies, like ours. The following illustration is clipped from a recent Boston newspaper. It is full of suggestions as to the value of local history and of the importance of preserving it.

#### PRESERVE LOCAL HISTORIES

"The history of a typical New England town is a history in miniature of New England. When one of these old towns celebrates the centennial or some other important anniversary of its founding and brings back its sons who have won fame elsewhere to tell the story, a great deal is said that is of historic and literary value, with a flavor of folklore in reminiscences and anecdotes which rarely gets into more formal volumes. A good illustration lies before us in the collected papers and records of the celebration of the bi-centennial of the founding of New Milford, Ct. Men of national reputation in church and state have gone out from that town. The late Pres. Noah Porter of Yale was once the pastor of the Congregational church. One of the two sons of Connecticut whose statues are in the Capitol at Washington was Roger Sherman of New Milford, whose career was finely sketched in an address by Chief Justice S. E. Baldwin. Local characters which would grace a first-class novel are described in some of the addresses. The editor, Mr. Minot S. Giddings, has done his part well, and the collection with illustrations makes a comely volume of over 300 pages. The

present and coming generations will know more and care much more about their native town because this celebration took place and these records of it are preserved. It is a wise investment for any town with a worthy history to commemorate it and to keep in the minds of its citizens the things which have given it value. This is the more important for those New England towns whose native stock has been in large measure supplemented by immigration, and whose chief characteristics in this way may be preserved."

It is plainly the duty of our local Historical Society to record for future generations the current annals of our time, and of the town to give a liberal support to the work of the Society.



## ELIHU GREENWOOD

BY HERBERT GREENWOOD

Elihu Greenwood was born in Sherborn, Mass., July 2d, 1807, the son of Reuben and Catherine Greenwood. His mother was Catherine Fuller, of Dover, Mass.

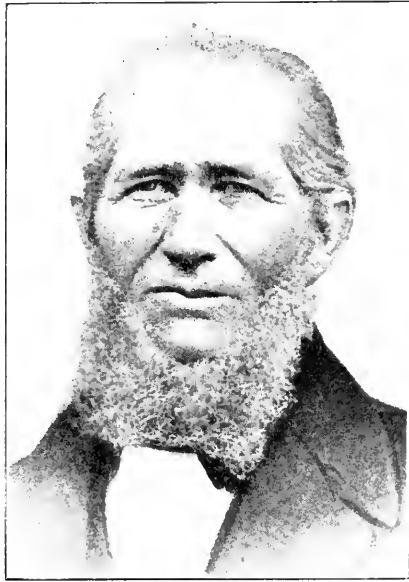
At the age of nineteen years he left home and walked to Boston with nothing of this world's goods but the clothes he had on and fifty cents in his pocket. He first obtained employment in the ice business; later in the Faneuil Hall market, where he stayed until he had saved money enough to purchase one of the stalls (Nos. 99-101) in that market. He and his brother Bela remained here until he bought the farm now bearing his name in Hyde Park, Mass.

On November 10th, 1833, he married Miss Phœbe Haley Chadbourn, of Kennebunk, Maine, at the residence of her brother, Seth Chadbourn, on Channing street, Boston, Mass. Seth Chadbourn was a member of the firm of Chadbourn Bros., of Hawley street. As a result of this union there were ten children, six boys and four girls. They went to reside in Brighton, Mass., and remained there until January 3d, 1842, when he purchased of Nathaniel Crane a farm of seventy-five acres in the western part of the town of Dorchester, Mass., now a part of the town of Hyde Park.

The old homestead is still standing at the corner of East River street and Metropolitan avenue.

Mr. Greenwood, with his family, attended the Orthodox Church at Milton Lower Mills, now known as the Village Church on River street, next to the engine house, this being the nearest church at that time. In the fall of 1863 he attended the Baptist Church in Hyde Park and made a public acknowledgement of that faith under the preaching of Lawyer Durant, of Boston, who was hold-





ELIHU GREENWOOD



ing services in Bragg's Hall with the Baptist and Congregational churches. The following July 17th, 1864, he and his wife were baptized in the Neponset river near the Fairmount Avenue bridge.

He was a member of the school board of the town of Dorchester. He was a public-spirited man, especially in his actions. He, and a friend of his, Mr. John Weld, of Jamaica Plain, were instrumental in having the County Commissioners lay out what is now known as Harvard and Hyde Park avenues from Fairmount avenue to Forest Hills ; in order that this should not fail, he gave all the land required for this across his farm from Westminster street to the brook this side of Clarendon Hills. He also gave one-half the land for Metropolitan avenue from East River street to Greenwood Square. He donated fifteen hundred dollars toward the erection of the Baptist church, and was one of the building committee of the same. A few years after his death his widow donated eighteen hundred dollars to the Methodist Church. The Greenwood School, Greenwood Avenue, and Greenwood Square, were all named in honor of him.

He commenced life penniless, and died March 16th, 1871, leaving a widow and four children and an estate valued at \$80,000, and not owing one cent to anybody, having paid 100 cents from the cradle to the grave.

## CHARLES FREDERICK ALLEN

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE HYDE PARK HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY, FEBRUARY 20, 1904

WHEREAS, by a sudden and startling dispensation of Divine Providence to which we bow in humble submission, while we cannot fathom its inscrutability, one whom we all trusted and respected, and whom those of us who were permitted to know intimately loved — has been removed from the sphere of his earthly activities and influences, now

Therefore, the Hyde Park Historical Society, of which he was ever a devoted and active friend and member, desires to give utterance to the general feeling of sorrow at his removal, and to place on record some permanent expression of its sense of bereavement and loss.

Mr. Allen was a monumental character, a man of sterling integrity, which he inherited from a long line of upright and downright men and women of self-sacrificing public spirit and fidelity; one who recognized the duties of citizenship as no less imperative than its privileges are valuable, and who gave freely and intelligently of his time, his influence, and his pecuniary resources for the public welfare.

In his business life he filled many and responsible positions, and always with credit to himself and a broad-minded regard for the interests committed to his charge; and as a friend and counsellor, his genius, devotion and honest practical common sense made his advice valuable and his admonitions just and effective. When, to all those strong and positive traits of character are added the sweet graces of spirit and native kindness of heart, which endeared him as a personal friend and companion to those of us who were privileged to know and appreciate him in the more intimate and sacred walks of life, in his home and with his family, in prosperity and adversity — we realized in some adequate degree, our great love, and that is not straining the oft-quoted sentiment of the great master alike of ideas and their expression, to say of our beloved companion and departed friend,

“ He was a man take him for all in all,  
I shall not look upon his like again.”

“ He was an honest, loyal friend in joy  
And sorrow just the same;  
Unselfish as the light of day, and faithful  
Even in words of blame;

“ Thoughtful of others, courteous, kind,  
Of noble heart and generous hand;  
No petty meanness stained his soul  
And c'en his very faults were grand!”

(Signed)

SAMUEL R. MOSELEY,  
G. FRED GRIDLEY,  
CHARLES STURTEVANT.

# A REVIEW OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY SINCE 1892

(CONTINUED)

1901.

The annual meeting of the Society was held January 14th, with an attendance of seventy-five members. President C. G. Chick presided.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the choice of:

*President*, Charles G. Chick.

*Secretary*, Fred L. Johnson.

*Treasurer*, Henry B. Humphrey.

*Curators*, A. H. Brainard, George L. Richardson, G. L. Stocking, George M. Harding, E. I. Humphrey, Charles F. Jenney, Frank B. Rich.

*Vice Presidents*, David Perkins, Henry S. Grew, Henry S. Bunton, Robert Bleakie, James D. McAvoy, Richard M. Johnson, Willard S. Everett, Isaac Bullard, James E. Cotter, Stephen B. Balkam, Samuel T. Elliott, John J. Enneking, William A. Mowry, William J. Stuart, Ferdinand A. Wyman, Samuel A. Tuttle, Henry B. Miner, Stillman A. Newell, Randolph P. Moseley, G. Fred Gridley.

An invitation was received from the Hyde Park Current Events Club to attend their public meeting held January 17th, in the Unitarian Church at 8 p. m. Col. Taylor of the Boston *Globe* addressed the club on "Modern Journalism."

A donation of programmes of different public exercises held at the Baptist Church in Hyde Park was received.

Curator Charles F. Jenney read a paper on "Hyde Park One Hundred Years Ago," giving many interesting facts about the families and locations of prominent houses in the territory of the present town.

Dr. Edward H. Baxter was elected a member of the Society.

MAY 2.

At a regular meeting held this date, about twenty-two members were present. President Chick addressed the meeting and paid a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Stephen B. Balkam, a vice president of the Society.

A committee of three was appointed to draft suitable resolutions — James E. Cotter, J. King Knight, Samuel T. Elliott.

A donation of books and papers was made by Mr. H. F. Kenney, of Philadelphia, through Mr. A. A. Folsom, of Boston.

In behalf of Mrs. Lora Pattee Jenney, Curator Charles F. Jenney presented to the Society a portrait of Henry C. Stark and gave a brief sketch of his life which is in manuscript and accompanies the portrait. It is as follows :

#### HENRY CLIFTON STARK

Henry Clifton Stark, son of the late Clifton Stark, was born at North Ipswich, N H. April 17th, 1849. He came to Hyde Park with his parents about 1869, and was educated in our public schools. For many years Mr. Stark was associated with the hardware firm of Fuller, Dana & Fitz, of Boston, Mass. He afterward was associated with his father in the stove business in this town, finally succeeding him in business. The store carried on by him is the one which is now occupied by Charles Lewis, Esq., and William E. Smalling.

In the early 70's Mr. Stark went West, and while there was severely injured in a railroad accident, and it was many years before he fully recovered from the same. A little later, however, he became very active in business and political circles. In 1879 he was elected a member of our board of selectmen, and was re-elected six times thereafter, serving as chairman of the board in 1881, 1882, 1885 and 1886. Although a Democrat in politics, he was elected in a strong Republican town, and received the support of our citizens irrespective of party.

In 1883 Mr. Stark was elected Representative to the General Court on the Democratic ticket and served on the Committee on Banks and Banking.

August 1st, 1885, he was appointed by President Cleveland,

postmaster of our town and served until February 11th, 1890. During his administration of the postoffice the service was greatly improved, the free delivery service being established October 1st, 1887. As a public recognition of his services as postmaster, the citizens of Hyde Park, irrespective of party, tendered him a public banquet in the Grand Army Hall on April 5th, 1888, which was attended by about one hundred of our best known citizens.

Mr. Stark was presented by the chairman, Orin T. Gray, Esq., with a gold-headed cane suitably inscribed. Complimentary remarks were made by many of our leading citizens, both political parties being equally represented.

In later years and up to the time of his death, Mr. Stark was engaged as a promoter in many large enterprises in Boston.

Ellen D. Lewis, wife of Charles Lewis, at present a resident of Hyde Park, is the nearest surviving relative. Maria Pattee Stark, Mr. Stark's widow, died October 3d, 1900, at their old residence, 213 West River street.

The crayon, which is this day presented to the Historical Society by Mrs. Lora Pattee Jenney, wife of Edwin C. Jenney, and niece of Mrs. Stark, was secured by Mrs. Stark in 1897, and hung in her home up to the time of her death.

Mr. George L. Richardson read a paper on the history of Stony Brook, giving a wealth of interesting details concerning mills, factories, damages, and improvements along its course from source to mouth.

OCTOBER 26, 1901.

A regular meeting of the Society was held this date, President Chick in the chair.

Mr. Charles D. Elliot, who was to have addressed the meeting, was unable to be present on account of ill health, and Dr. William A. Mowry kindly consented to take his place.

His subject was "Anti-slavery Days" and the cause that led up to the Civil War. His remarks were deeply interesting and were a real treat to those fortunate enough to be present.

Mr. Robert Scott, Jr., donated a portrait of his father, Mr. Robert Scott of Dana avenue.

NOVEMBER 12, 1901.

A regular meeting of the Society was held this date, but as Mr. Charles D. Elliot was still unable to appear and read his paper, the meeting was adjourned to the annual meeting in January, 1902.

JANUARY 7, 1902.

The annual meeting of the society was held on this date, with twenty members present. President Charles G. Chick in the chair.

Last year's officers were all re-elected, except that Frank O. Draper was elected vice president in place of Stephen B. Balkam, deceased.

Mr. James E. Cotter offered resolutions on the death of Mr. Balkam which were adopted. A memorial sketch of Mr. Balkam was printed in Vol. III of our Historical Record.

Mr. Robert Bleakie donated a volume, the "Annals of Hawick," Scotland.

A vote was passed allowing Mr. Harry Higbee to make a copy of the photograph of the hermit's house that stood in Grew's woods.

Mr. Charles D. Elliot read a paper on "John Winthrop and his house on the Mystic." This was a highly interesting paper and delighted those who heard it.

MAY 1, 1902.

A meeting of the Society was held this date in Weld Hall. Sixty members were present. This meeting was called to commemorate the thirty-fourth anniversary of the town. The board of Selectmen, the ministers of the various churches, and Representative E. Q. Dyer were invited to be present. Mr. Gordon H. Knott, whose name is closely identified with the early days of Hyde Park, was invited to attend, but was unable to come.

President Chick addressed the meeting, recalling incidents in the town's early history, and spoke of the great improvement in the town and of the large increase in population.

General H. B. Carrington, in behalf of Mr. Henry S. Grew, presented to the Society a portrait of Mr. Henry Grew, who lived on the beautiful Grew estate on West Street.



Mr. Charles F. Jenney, in behalf of Mr. Robert H. Vivian, presented a funeral badge worn in Boston on the occasion of General Zachary Taylor's funeral.

Mr. Jenney suggested that the society should procure suitable show-cases to hold articles of this sort, so that they may be more accessible to the members.

The speakers of the evening were then introduced, the first being Horace E. Ware, Esq., who spoke for the Milton part of the town (that part of Hyde Park which was originally in Milton). He spoke of the old mill on the Neponset river, and especially the powder mill which was built on the site of the Webb mill at Milton in 1674, and was blown up in 1774, after which another was built almost opposite.

Mr. Thomas F. Temple represented the Dorchester part of the town, and spoke of the Thompson who owned Thompson's island in the harbor, which was afterward granted to the town of Dorchester, and rented for twenty pounds a year for the benefit of a public school. He set forth the claims of Dorchester to the first church, first free mill and first public school in New England. Mr. Temple was town clerk of Dorchester in 1868, when Hyde Park was formed.

Mr. Julius H. Tuttle spoke for the Dedham part of the town, and of the work and influence of historical societies, such as the Hyde Park and Dedham societies, in encouraging the study of American history.

OCTOBER 28, 1902.

The regular fall meeting of the Society was held, with an attendance of fifty members.

Rev. Carleton A. Staples, of Lexington, Mass., spoke on the subject, "How the news of the battle of Lexington was received in England." Mr. Staples, well versed in colonial history, was greatly enjoyed by those present.

On motion of Mr. Charles F. Jenney, it was voted to appoint a new committee on publication. The chair appointed Dr. Wm. A. Mowry, Frank B. Rich and Fred L. Johnson. President Chick spoke of the revival of interest in the *HISTORICAL RECORD*, and

as funds would be needed to carry on the work, suggested that a loan exhibit of historical relics collected from the families of the town would be appropriate and interesting.

It was voted to appoint a committee of five to confer with a similar committee from the Current Events Club of the town to arrange for an exhibition of this kind, both societies to share expenses and proceeds equally. The chair appointed Mrs. S. A. Tuttle, Mrs. J. E. Cotter, Mrs. Chas. A. Fisher, Mrs. R. P. Moseley and Mrs. W. W. Wilde.

Received a picture of the house of Gordon H. Knott, taken in the '60s, and a group picture of the School Board of 1902.

JANUARY 6, 1903.

The regular annual meeting called for this date was adjourned to the 19th inst.

JANUARY 19, 1903.

An adjourned annual meeting was held this date, with President Chick in the chair. Twenty-five members were present. After the reading of the usual reports, the Librarian was instructed to examine the files of local newspapers which we have on hand, and confer with the Treasurer about means to bind those which are complete.

All the officers of the Society were re-elected for the ensuing year except the following: J. Roland Corthell elected Curator in place of George M. Harding, who was elected Vice President in place of J. D. McAvoy.

Mr. J. H. Crandon spoke to the Society on "Colonial and Revolutionary Social Life," more particularly in Boston. He was very interesting and held the close attention of the audience.

MARCH 23, 1903.

The meeting called for this evening was postponed to the 31st inst. on account of the weather.

MARCH 31, 1903.

A postponed meeting of the Society was held this date, with Vice-President Henry S. Bunton in the chair.

Curator Charles F. Jenney made a report on the proposed dedi-

cation of a memorial stone on the nineteenth of April at the site of the first house built in Hyde Park, and solicited donations to the amount of fifty dollars, nineteen having been pledged already.

Mrs E. D. Swallow, of the Ladies' Committee, reported on a social and reception to be given in Weld Hall on the evening of the nineteenth of April, recommending that guests as well as members wear continental or colonial dress.

President Charles G. Chick read a valuable and interesting paper on "The Spark that kindled the Revolution."

APRIL 20, 1903.

The Spring meeting of the Society was held this day, and consisted of a walk to the East River Street district in the morning, and a reception arranged by the ladies in the evening at Weld Hall. A party of twenty members and their friends assembled at ten o'clock in the morning at the Library building, and under the guidance of Curator Charles F. Jenney walked to River Street station, stopping at a number of interesting historical houses and locations on the way. Mr. Jenney gave a description of each point of interest, and by the time the party had proceeded half the distance it had increased to sixty people.

The chief object of this walk was to dedicate a memorial stone erected near the site of the first house built in the present confines of Hyde Park. This stone is a granite slab placed at the northwest corner of the paper-mill yard and on the inner line of the sidewalk. The success of this effort was very largely due to Curator Jenney, who studied the records and prepared the historical matter which was necessary. President Charles G. Chick also added to the pleasure of the event by his historical address.

In the evening a Colonial Reception was held in Weld Hall. The receiving party were in costume and consisted of President Charles G. Chick and Mrs. Chick, Gen. H. B. Carrington and Mrs. Carrington, and Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Johnson. A large number were present and took part in the enjoyment of the evening.

OCTOBER 12, 1903.

A special meeting was held, and forty members were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Rice, of Hyde Park, presented to the Society an old seraphine made by J. G. Pearson, of Worcester, Mass.

Mr. J. Roland Corthell, of Readville, presented the records of the Readville Improvement Association.

The records of the Butler Club, dated September 7th, 1871, were received by the Librarian.

Mr. Frank Smith, of Dedham, read a very interesting paper on the early settlers of Dedham, Mass. Mr. Smith sketched the life of the settlers from every standpoint—religious, social and political, giving a very full description of their home life and habits. The paper was well written and well read, and showed the results of a great amount of research by the author.

#### NOVEMBER 16, 1903.

A special meeting of the Society was held, about twenty members being present.

After the transaction of routine business it was voted to repair, tune, and otherwise put in order the seraphine in the collection of the Society.

Mr. George L. Richardson read a paper on "Going West in 1820," being the experiences of a party of gentlemen travelling from New England to Cincinnati, Ohio, and thence to Arkansas by water. Travel in those days was slow and tedious, but the opportunity to see the country and get acquainted with the people was unsurpassed. Along with the unavoidable hardship was a great deal of sociability, which is almost impossible in these days of quick transit and short journeys.

Mr. Frank B. Rich reported that Mr. A. L. Goding and his son had recently visited Hyde Park, after a long absence. Mr. Goding lived here from 1857 to 1861, occupying the house opposite the present post office, on East River street. Here his son was born May 1, 1858. They afterward lived in the house on the southeast corner of Harvard Avenue and Winthrop street. Dr. F. W. Goding, the son, now of Newcastle, N. S. W., requested to be admitted a member of the Society.

# The Fairmount Bulletin

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
FAIRMOUNT IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

VOL. II

FAIRMOUNT, APRIL, 1906

No. 1

## Souvenir Historical Number

1856

1906



IN COMMEMORATION OF THE  
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE SETTLEMENT OF FAIR-  
MOUNT, HYDE PARK, MASS.

# TILESTON & HOLLINGSWORTH CO.

**Paper** 

**Manufacturers**

**FOR OVER A CENTURY**

## HYDE PARK, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.

The oldest industry in Hyde Park is the Tileston & Hollingsworth Co. The extensive paper making plant of this concern, located near the River street station on the Midland R.R., has been for nearly seventy years in the possession of the Tileston and Hollingsworth families.

The Neponset River, on which this mill is situated, has a long history in connection with mill sites and privileges. In 1634 a grist mill stood on the site of the present Walter Baker chocolate mills. The first mill dam at the site of the Tileston & Hollingsworth Co. in Hyde Park was erected in 1684. It was for a saw mill, and granted by the town of Dorchester to John Trescott. In 1783-1784 a grant of land was made by the town of Dorchester to George Clark, a paper maker of Milton, one of the conditions being that his mills should be on the north side of the river so that Dorchester would get the taxes. Clark built a mill and made paper here for some years. In 1786 William Sumner bought one-half the mill and he afterwards came into possession of the whole. Sumner died Jan. 30, 1836, and the mill was sold by his executor to Tileston & Hollingsworth, Sept. 19, 1836.

There was then two mills on the property, a cotton and a paper mill. About 1837 the cotton mill was burned and replaced by a paper mill, and in 1850 the old original paper mill was torn down and replaced by a modern structure. Additions to the plant have been frequent and the machinery today is modern throughout. A fair indication of the advance made by the Company is shown by the fact that in the first year of Hyde Park's incorporation the firm paid less than \$700 in taxes. Now they pay nearly \$7,000 in taxes. In addition to their Hyde Park mills the firm have a number of others.

The firm of Tileston & Hollingsworth began business in 1801 in a mill on the Neponset River in Mattapan. It was composed of Edward Tileston of Dorchester and Mark Hollingsworth of New Jersey. Both were practical paper makers. In 1831 Edmund P. Tileston and Amor Hollingsworth, their sons, were admitted to the firm and a third generation has since succeeded them. Four of the second generation of Hollingsworths were paper makers owning mills in other Massachusetts towns, and the reputation of the early members of this firm has been well sustained by their descendants. The Hyde Park mills make a specialty of natural and calendared paper for fine book and illustrated work, the paper for some of the biggest magazines being produced here.

The company was incorporated in 1887, the present officers being A. L. Hollingsworth, President, H. M. Whitney, Vice Pres. and George F. Child, Treas.

From the Oldest Store of  
any kind in Hyde Park

**MARK E. NOBLE**

APOTHECARY

Everett Square

**GEO. C. KETCHUM**

APOTHECARY

Everett Square

**FALLON'S DRUG STORES**

THOMAS F. FALLON, Prop.

Cleary Sq. Mattapan Sq.  
Hyde Park Mattapan

**ROBERT GRAY**

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Tailor

41 Fairmount Avenue

**HENRY GRANDBERG**

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Hyde Park Co-operative Bank

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**PETER J. WEBB**

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62 W. River Street, Hyde Park  
and 1 Beacon Street, Boston

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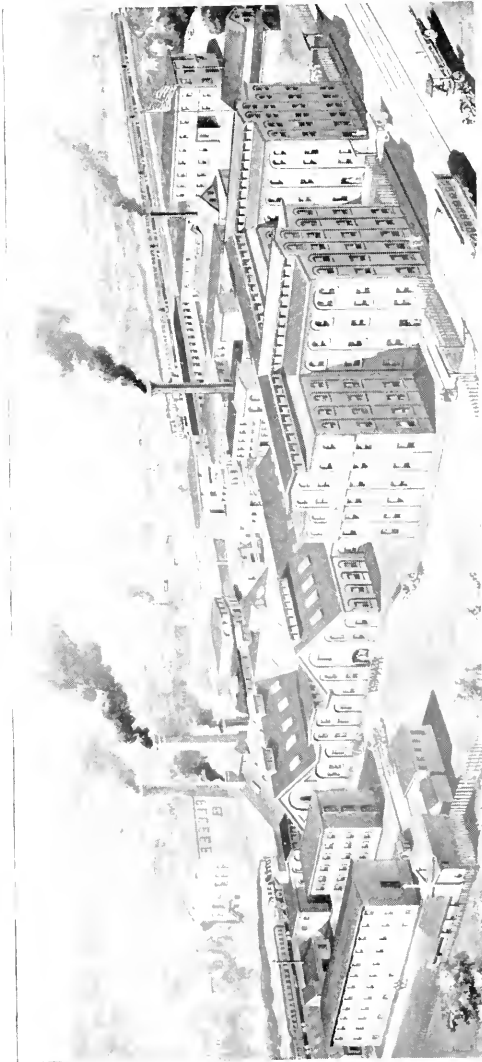
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**HYDE PARK RENOVATING  
AND CLEANSING COMPANY**

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Office  
52 Fairmount Avenue

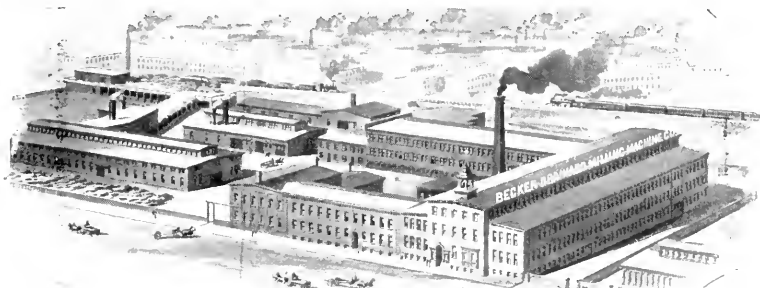
# Hyde Park Works of the AMERICAN TOOL AND MACHINE CO.



This Company was incorporated in 1864. Their location then was on Kingston St., Boston, and the late Benjamin F. Radford was superintendent. They came to Hyde Park in 1872, at first only erecting a foundry. In 1879 they added a machinery department and nearly each year has seen a visible enlargement of the plant and widening of the market for the special lines of machinery which they produce. Everything connected with the transmission of power is made here, and their fame is world wide on their special machines for the use of sugar refiners, rubber and leather manufacturers and other industries. The Company has a Boston shop employing about 75 hands. Their Hyde Park plant employs about 350 hands. The property consists of seven and one-half acres of land with immense brick buildings and floor space of about 154,000 square feet. The present officers are: W. N. Bacon, Pres.; W. O. Lincoln, Treas.; M. H. Barker, Gen. Mgr., and Henry F. Arnold, Supt.



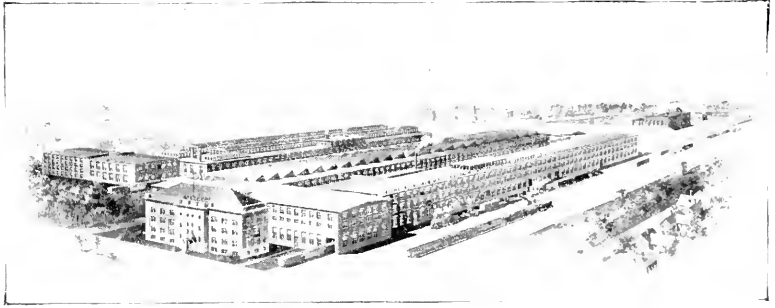
## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BECKER-BRAINARD MILLING MACHINE CO.



Works at Hyde Park, Mass.

In 1865 A. H. Brainard invented a bench vise known afterwards as the Union vise, of which over 40,000 were made and sold by the Union Vise Co. of Boston. This vise of cast iron had its front jaw and base in one piece, the rear jaw having tenons on each side and traveling in grooves on the base. In its experimental stages these grooves and tenons were finished on a planer. The time required to fit the jaws of a four-inch vise occupying the time of a good hand just about a whole day. Mr. Brainard's first attempt to save time and expense on this part of the vise was to rig up a milling attachment for an engine lathe. He fitted to the ways of the lathe a saddle having a circular prolongation dropping between the ways. This projection or cylinder was bored out to receive a corresponding cylinder cast in one piece with the bed above, which received a carriage having a movement of about eighteen inches at right angles with the lathe spindle and operated by a screw and crank. Primitive as was this device it demonstrated at once the superiority of milling irregular surfaces over planing, and search was begun at once for a suitable milling machine. He began studying up something to meet his requirements, when, in a small shop in New York City he happened to find a machine in use in which the work table was connected to a knee which travelled vertically upon the face of a standard or column. This attracted his attention and after careful examination he interviewed the maker, offering him an order, provided he would make such changes and improvements as Mr. Brainard suggested. These changes he was very reluctant to make, but finally agreed for a liberal consideration.

This machine proved a valuable auxiliary for a short time, while the tools for manufacturing the vise were in progress, but as the front jaw and base needed to be grooved on both sides it was early apparent that a double machine was a necessity for economical production. Therefore a milling machine with two independent adjustable heads was designed, or what would now be termed a duplex machine, which proved a remarkable success, meanwhile being busy perfecting designs for a better and more powerful milling machine which was as successful as the duplex. While giving much time and study to perfecting the standard machine, it was two or three years before he thought of building milling machines for the market. When the project of building machines for sale was seriously entertained he was opposed by some of his stockholders, one of whom, the treasurer of the company and the largest stockholder inquired rather sarcastically, "Who wants milling machines," concluding his remarks by assuring Mr. Brainard that he would never live long enough to sell one. The experiment was tried and truth compelled him to say that his efforts for the first year resulted in the sale of one milling machine only. The second year the sale was increased to nine, and by the winter of 1870-71 the milling machine business had assumed such proportion that the vise business was disposed of to the Backus Vise Co. of Millers Falls, Mass., which was soon afterwards merged into the Millers Falls Co. In April, 1871, the works of the Union Vise Co. were destroyed by fire, and in June, 1871, the Brainard Milling Machine Co. was organized for the purpose of making milling and kindred machines alone. In 1890 the plant was again destroyed by fire, after which a new factory was erected upon the present site and the company was reorganized and consolidated with the John Becker Mfg. Co. of Fitchburg, the name being changed to The Becker Brainard Milling Machine Co. Eugene N. Foss is president and A. L. Lovejoy is treasurer and general manager.



## THE B. F. STURTEVANT CO.

### HYDE PARK

More than forty years ago B. F. Sturtevant established in a small way a business for the manufacture of blowers, at 72 Sudbury street, Boston. With the growth of the business increased facilities were provided until it became necessary to move to a new site at Jamaica Plain, where, as the years passed, buildings were added and equipment increased. In 1890 the business was incorporated under the name B. F. Sturtevant Co. The present officers are John Carr, President; Eugene N. Foss, Treasurer and General Manager; Elmer P. Howe, Clerk.

Within ten years the capacity of the extended plant was taxed to the limit, and the purchase of nearly twenty acres of land in the Readville district of Hyde Park was scarcely consummated when a serious fire visited the plant at Jamaica Plain. This disaster served to hasten the clearing of the new site and the erection of one of the most complete machinery manufacturing plants in New England. Arranged and designed with the utmost care, it presents opportunities for economy in manufacture and internal transportation equalled by few.

The foundry covers nearly an acre and a half of floor space. From the foundry most of the castings pass direct to the machine department, with its 100,000 square feet of floor space; or to the testing and electrical building, with a floor area of over 60,000 square feet. Here they are worked into engines, motors, generators, fuel economizers, etc. Of engines alone the output is nearly one thousand per year. Large orders upon rigid specifications have been executed for the U. S. Navy Department, both for electrically and steam driven fans and for very high grade electric generating sets for lighting our warships and cruisers. A large majority of the ships of our Navy are equipped for forced draft with Sturtevant blowers.

The building devoted to the manufacture of blowers, heating, ventilating and drying apparatus comprises nearly three acres of floor space. Here fan wheels ranging from six inches to 20 feet in diameter are built, and a room 30 feet in height is provided for setting up the large fan casings. Steam pipe is cut up by the million feet for the Sturtevant heaters used in connection with the fans.

**The B. F. STURTEVANT CO.,—Cont.**

The power plant, with its thousand horse-power of boilers and its interesting collection of Sturtevant apparatus, is situated at some distance from the main buildings, and connected therewith by a tunnel in which are carried all steam and air pipes, electric wires and the like.

A pattern building measuring 80 feet by 150 feet, a forge shop 40 feet wide by 100 feet long, a wash and locker building of similar dimensions, and an independent paint and oil house, complete the manufacturing plant.

The office building, measuring 45 feet by 125 feet, five stories in height, is occupied as the general headquarters for the entire business. In the light and airy basement is located a restaurant and a complete printing plant. The balance of the building is occupied by the production, advertising, correspondence, accounting and drafting departments, requiring for their conduct a force of nearly 200 employees. The total number employed in office and works is rapidly approaching the 1500 mark. Every care has been taken for their material welfare. Each man is provided with individual locker and washing facilities, and the "Sturtevant Special" train carries employees directly to and from the works to points between Readville and Boston.

The market for the products of the B. F. Sturtevant Co. is world wide. The American business is conducted through a primary system of branch houses in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, and a number of resident agents located in other large cities.

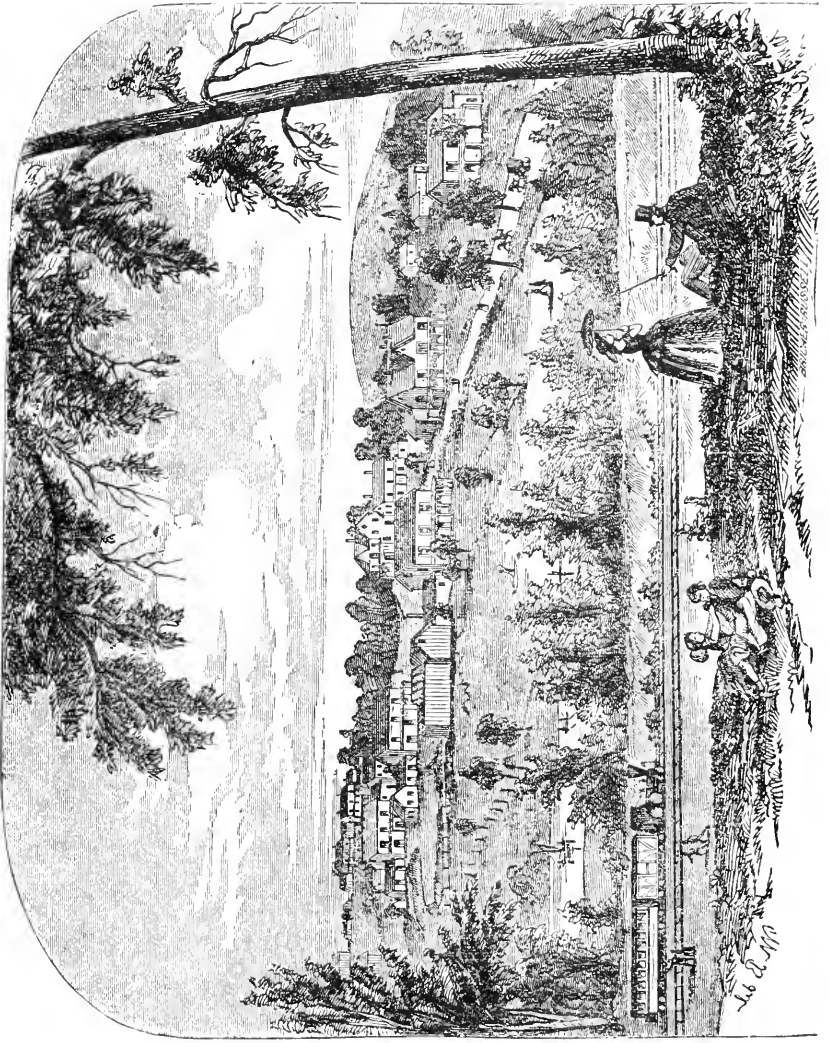
The European business is handled by the Sturtevant Engineering Co., of London, with its subordinate offices in Glasgow, Paris, Berlin and Stockholm. Representatives in Japan, China, Australia, etc., carry this business to the uttermost parts of the earth.



**HALF A CENTURY OF PROGRESS.**

Only fifty years ago Fairmount orchards were converted into home sites: but what a wonderful progress the world has shown in that period! Compare our railroad facilities: Fifty years ago a dummy car on the New England Road, operated by the patrons themselves, making one trip each way daily, and four trains on the Boston & Providence constituted the service. Today we have on the two roads one hundred and twenty-one trains daily, besides two electric lines within our limits and one just beyond, with fifteen minute service connecting us with Boston.

Just consider for a moment the telephone, not dreamed of fifty years ago, now transmitting our voices hundreds of miles and bringing our friends to us, no matter how widely separated. Conceive if you can of doing without this little instrument now, which enables us in a moment to summons the doctor, make known our wants to the grocer or the butcher. Measured by the telephone service alone you can judge of the development and prosperity of Hyde Park. The first telephone was installed in 1882. There are now over 750 subscribers to the service and the business has so grown that the New England Telephone Company are about to erect a new building on the site beside the Methodist church.



Early View of Fairmount. From Grove originally opposite present Fairmount R. R. Station.

# The Fairmount Bulletin

Published in the interest of good government  
By the Fairmount Improvement Association

VOL. II.

FAIRMOUNT, APRIL, 1906

NO. 1

You can't fire without ammunition: You can't publish a book without getting a bill from the printer. To the professional and business men whose generosity makes it possible to publish this little souvenir, the editor stands hat in hand and bows his thanks.

The Bulletin acknowledges its indebtedness to Mr. Frank B. Rich for valuable information given in the writing up of Fairmount history. Mr. Rich is a "ready reference library" on things that "have been" in our town and he is always willing to impart his knowledge to those who seek it. His father, Henry A. Rich, began early to collect data on Fairmount and Hyde Park happenings, and at his death, through his family, the Historical Society received a valuable collection of scrap books, historical pictures and documents. The future historian of Hyde Park will gratefully acknowledge the years of patient labor spent by Mr. Rich in accumulating this mass of valuable historical data.

This is the sixth number of The Fairmount Bulletin. This little pocket monthly has been published as a pure labor of love, to arouse interest in Fairmount and to preach good citizenship and loyalty to the town in which we live. Early scrap books abound in printed matter which the Twenty Associates and later the Real Estate and Building Co. issued. They believed that the town was a good place and they were not afraid to say so. It is just the same today: Hyde Park is a good place: it has its failings, but show us a town that has not. We are not living in the millennium: we are living in the strenuous twentieth century where we are all more or less inclined to let the other fellow correct the abuses of the body politic. But it is clearly the duty of every citizen to give enough of his time and talents so that the community of which he forms a part is better for his living in it.

Mr. John Appell has earned the title of the "Historian of Fairmount," as it is mainly through his patient researches and his ability as a writer, that this issue is so replete with valuable historic data. The labor involved in editing and assembling facts and figures after the lapse of fifty years can only be appreciated by one who has tried it.

The patience of our townspeople in the matter of the grade crossings at Fairmount avenue and Bridge street is to be rewarded in the outcome of this long extended struggle. All parties are now in agreement on plans for both crossings that will be the best possible solutions, and the decree of the Commissioners is looked for at an early date, the revised and final plans for Bridge street now being drawn.

The town will owe to Mr. C. F. Jenney a deep debt of gratitude not to be paid in money for the careful and able manner in which he has handled this grade crossing problem. With so many divergent interests to satisfy, it is really remarkable that the ultimate results are so absolutely in accord with Hyde Park's desires. His uniform courtesy and patience have been reciprocated by those he has been in conflict with and his steady persistence has won for the Town's best interests a great victory.

Not a little dissatisfaction exists at the long delay in building the foot bridge at Glenwood. The great need of this structure, the large territory to be benefited by it, the unanimity with which the town authorized its construction, and the readiness with which the N. Y., N. H. & H. Railroad cooperated in the matter, led us all to expect prompt and ready action on the part of the Town. Over a year has elapsed and the only indications of any progress are the stone abutments for the River bridge. It is hoped that the present Board of Selectmen will push this matter to a quick conclusion as a large number of our citizens are suffering from need of it.

## TWENTY ASSOCIATES.

Particular interest attaches to the lives of these men inasmuch as they were not only the first settlers of Fairmount, but the projectors and promoters of the Town of Hyde Park. The matter contained in these sketches has been obtained only by laborious research and has never before been printed. It is historically correct in detail as the data has been collected either from the parties themselves or their direct descendants, largely by the late Henry A. Rich.

GEORGE W. CURRIER was born in Meredith, N. H., Jan. 28, 1821. He was brought up on a farm, attending the district school winters until he was 19 years old. At the age of 21 he started to learn the carpenter's trade and later went to Boston to live. In December, 1852, he married Miss Eliza Kelsea of Boston, also a native of Meredith. He moved to Fairmount May 1, 1856, living temporarily in the present Stephen Tucker house on Brush Hill road until his own house was completed Nov. 1 of that year. His house was the first built of the Twenty Associates and was located at the corner of Fairmount avenue and Beacon streets. The frame was raised May 15, 1856. It is better known as the old "Carlton" house and was torn down in 1905. Mr. Currier took entire charge of the building of the twenty houses for the Associates, which were all built from one set of plans and exactly alike. His wife died on June 19, 1857, her's being the first death in the new settlement. She was buried in Mount Hope cemetery. She left two children, Frank L. born in Boston Dec. 5, 1853 and Clara E. born in Boston, June 5, 1855. Sept. 23, 1858 Mr. Currier married Mrs. Eliza A. Vaughn, a native of Maine. Nov. 15, 1857, he was chosen Trustee and Treasurer of the first religious society organized in Hyde Park. In 1862 he moved to California, and later to Virginia City, Nevada, where he died Oct. 26, 1887, and was buried in Masonic ground. His son, Frank L., died Feb. 26, 1885. His daughter, Clara E., married Mr. Philo Knapp of Virginia City, Nevada, Aug. 22, 1877, and they have one child, Albert, born Nov. 26, 1886.

ALPHEUS P. BLAKE the "father" of Fairmount was a New Hampshire boy, born in Orange, N. H. in 1832 and removed at an early age to Pittsfield in the same state. He was only 23 years of age when he organized the Twenty Associates. His conception of the settlement was unique. There was no village in Fairmount for a nucleus; he planned to start his colony on virgin ground. He figured that every one of his companions could save from 15 to 20 per cent. on the cost of their houses if one contract was made for them; the element of first cost entered into all his transactions. He was a shrewd leader with unbounded faith in his undertakings. After his experience with Fairmount he became the guiding spirit in the affairs of the Real Estate and Building Co. He organized the Boston Land Co. He was prime mover in the building of the Revere Beach & Lynn R.R. and at one time head of the New England Brick Co. He now resides at Winthrop, Mass., and long ago obtained a competence.

ENOCH E. BLAKE was born in Pittsfield, N. H. July 4th, 1835. He was the son of John Blake, who was born in Pittsfield in 1802. His mother was born in London, N. H. July 4th, 1804. Enoch and his brother Alpheus came to Boston in July 1851. He first found employment in the market and then in a hotel, and he also had a newspaper route, and later he was assistant Sexton of Park St. Church, and also had charge of Niles Block on School St. In 1856 he joined the Twenty Associates and built the house at the corner of Fairmount Avenue and Beacon St. In Sept. 1859 Mr. Blake married Miss Emma E. Coon. She was born in Exeter, Me. June 8, 1839. They had one child, Blanche L. Blake, born in 1873 and died March 1, 1876. Mr. Blake's wife died Sept. 13, 1895. Mr. Blake kept a grocery store in Hyde Park from 1859 to 1863 and was also Postmaster of Fairmount under President Lincoln, also charter member and deacon of the Congregational Church, and Station Agent of the Providence Railroad. In 1866 he commenced work for Mr. Crocker in Chatham St., Boston in the wholesale fruit business. In 1872 the firm became Crocker and Blake. He has now (in 1906) a large store on Commercial St., the firm name being Blake, Scott and Lee. He has nine brothers and sisters.

Hon. DANIEL WARREN was born in Upton, Mass., April 16, 1820. He was educated in the common schools of Upton and then learned the trade of a trunk-maker. He was married Jan. 28, 1846 to Miss Mary E. Goodridge of South Danvers.

They lived in Boston until 1856 then moved to Hyde Park. Mr. Warren died May 26, 1867. He was a member of Massachusetts Senate for the year 1855, and Assistant Treasurer of the Mercantile Savings Institution of Boston. He organized the Fairmount Sabbath school at the house of A. P. Blake, June 28, 1857 and was chosen Superintendent. The Sabbath school was presented to the Methodist church June 2, 1867. Mrs. Mary E. Warren, his widow, broke the ground and turned the first sod for the foundation of the Methodist church, corner of Central avenue and Winthrop street, June 2, 1873. Their son, James L. Warren was the first babe born in Fairmount, Nov. 30, 1856. Another son, George B. Warren, is now the Cashier of the State National Bank in Boston, with which he has been connected many years.

DWIGHT B. RICH was born in Hardwick, Mass., May 2, 1826, and until 16 years of age went to school in his native town. He then worked on a farm, and when 20 years of age came to Boston to live. He soon found employment—and since that time until his death has been in various kinds of business. He built the house No. 247 Fairmount avenue, corner of Summit street in 1856, and was a resident of Hyde Park for more than 20 years. He was for several years superintendent of the New England Brick Co. of Cambridge, later was general agent of the Cary Improvement of Chelsea, and kept the Highland Park Hotel (now the Soldiers' Home) one season; he was also identified with the Boston Land Co.; North Shore Land Co.; Boston, Revere Beach & Lynn Railroad; Director of the Real Estate and Building Co. of Hyde Park; Trustee of the Fairmount Land Co.; General Agent Florida Land Co. He died at Orange Park, Florida, Oct. 23, 1882. His remains were brought home and interred in the family lot in Milton, Mass. His wife had never been able to obtain all the particulars concerning his death, so started on a trip to the South and was on board of the ill-fated steamer City of Columbus, which was wrecked off Gay's Head, Martha's Vineyard, in January, 1884. Over 100 lives were lost, Mrs. Rich among them. Her body was recovered and was buried in the family lot in Milton.

DAVID HIGGINS was born in Standhope, Prince Edward Island, April 21, 1828. died in Hyde Park April 8, 1897, aged 68 years, 11 months, 9 days. He came to Boston from the Provinces in 1853, and to Fairmount in the spring of 1856, and drove the first nail in the first of the twenty houses, on the corner of Fairmount avenue and Beacon street. Feb. 22, 1857, he was married to Miss Antoinette M. Hagerman, in Boston, and came immediately to Fairmount to live. The first school in Fairmount was in the parlor of his house. He sheltered the ministers who came to preach in the new schoolhouse after one was put up. He was a brother of Mrs. John Lawson, an early resident. Mr. Higgins was a master builder and built many of the houses in the early history of the town. He served in the 6th regiment in the Civil War. Was one of the charter members of the Baptist church. He was buried in Fairview.

WILLIAM H. SEAVEY was born in Georgetown, Me., Mar. 5, 1823, was brought up on a farm until the age of 10 years. In 1833 his father, Thomas B. Seavey, was appointed keeper of the Monheagan Island Lighthouse; he then moved to that place with his family, which consisted of his wife, Mrs. Keziah Seavey, and five children, Hinckley, Reuben, William H., Sarah and Eliza. Mr. Seavey became a schoolteacher; was master of the Elliot school, Boston, in 1855, and was principal of the Girls High and Normal, Boston, from 1856 to the time of his death, which took place April 27, 1868. Mr. Seavey built the house, 186 Fairmount avenue in 1856; he moved into it in June, 1861, and lived there until the spring of 1866, when he sold it to Benjamin F. Radford. He married Miss Mary Louisa Munroe of Boston, May 27, 1861; had one child, William Munroe Seavey, born in Hyde Park, March 29, 1862. Mr. Seavey took great interest in building and developing Hyde Park. His funeral took place April 30, 1868, at 1 p.m., the very day and hour that the town was organized.

JOHN C. FRENCH was born in Pittsfield, N. H., Mar. 1, 1832, where he spent his boyhood on the farm; attending and teaching school in winter until 1851, when he moved to Boston. In 1855 he joined the Twenty Associates and in 1856 he built the house which was occupied for so many years by Theodore D. Weld. He married Miss Annie M. Philbrick of Deerfield, N. H., in 1858, by whom he had three children, Lizzie A., Susie P. and George Abraham. In 1859 he sold his house to

James Bennett. He was at one time a Boston schoolteacher and was always greatly interested in educational matters. In 1866 he moved to Manchester, N. H., where he became president of the N. H. Fire Ins. Co., and The Manchester Shoe Co., also a director of the Merchants National Bank, and a trustee of the Guarantee Savings Bank and of the Manchester City Library. He was the son of Enoch French of Pittsfield, N. H., and a cousin of Leroy J. French, so long a respected resident of our town.

SAMUEL SALMON MOONEY, one of the Twenty Associates and founders of the town of Hyde Park, was born in Lunenburg, N. S., July 30, 1822. He came to Boston in 1842, and learned the trade of hairdresser and barber, and for nearly twenty years kept one of the largest and most stylish barber shops in Boston, located at 198 Washington street, between Winter and Franklin streets. He was married May 3, 1849, in Saco, Me., to Miss Anna Maria Gilpatric of Kennebunk, Me. He had two children, Emma M., born at Saco, Me., April 15, 1850, and Charles S. (the second boy baby born in Fairmount), April 15, 1858, and died in East Watertown, Mass., Feb. 6, 1895. Mr. Mooney moved his family to Hyde Park in the fall of 1856; during the summer he boarded on Brush Hill road and his family were in Maine. He was present at the raising of the first house May 15, 1856. He built the house No. 260 Fairmount avenue, corner of Summit street, and was a resident of Hyde Park until 1862, then sold his house and moved to Portland, Me. He owned the barber shop at the United States Hotel and later was in the coal and wood business. He moved to Cambridge, Mass., in 1885 and died there Jan. 27, 1887.

HYPOLITUS C. FISK was born in Berlin, Mass., Feb., 1827. Was married in Augusta, Me., Jan. 15, 1850. Moved to Hyde Park with his family in the fall of 1856. His daughter, Miss Helen A. Fisk, was married Dec. 17, 1878, to Marshall T. Burnett by Rev. Francis C. Williams. Mr. Burnett died May 19, 1897. Mr. Fisk was a member of the firm of Sleeper, Fisk & Co., wholesale milliners, Boston. Mr. Fisk now resides with his daughter, Mrs. Burnett, at 12 Pond street, and is the only one of the Twenty Associates now living in the town.

WILLIAM H. NIGHTINGALE was born in Dorchester May 14, 1816; died in Hyde Park Jan. 13, 1878; was married in July, 1838, to Miss Abby Harding, who was born in Chatham, Mass., Sept. 6, 1822. Mr. Nightingale came to Hyde Park in May, 1856, and worked during the season on the houses of the Twenty Associates and was present at the raising of the first house and moved his family to the town in November of that year. He, with his son, James H., served faithfully in the army during the rebellion, while his wife worked for the Union cause at home. His son, James H., died in Hyde Park, April 12, 1880; his wife also died in Hyde Park December 19, 1893.

WILLIAM ESTABROOK FRENCH was born at the old French farm in Dunstable, Mass., June 4, 1817, and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Andrew Bates, Sept. 15, 1894, on Huntington avenue, Roslindale, aged 77 years. At the age of 17 he went to Boston and learned the trade of a mason. With money saved from his day's wages he attended the academy at New Hampton, N. H., in the year 1837-1838, and during the following winter the academy at Hancock, N. H. In 1843, he went into business in Boston as a contractor and builder. He was married April 10, 1845, to Miss Eliza Ann Wright of Concord, Mass., who died in Nov., 1862, leaving three daughters, Anna E. French, born Aug. 4, 1848, who married William Anderson of Bridgewater in Nov., 1881; he died in 1889; Ellen Wright French, his second daughter, was born June 6, 1851, and married Andrew Bates, May 6, 1877. William E. French was a member of Mass. House of Representatives from Boston, 1855, when the Twenty Associates were organized to start the village of Fairmount, now Hyde Park. He joined the company and erected in 1856 the house No. 185 Fairmount avenue. Mr. French never resided in Hyde Park, for, at the time of building here, he had several contracts on hand which he could not leave.

IRA L. BENTON was born in Andover, Vt., Nov. 21, 1821. In early life he was an apprentice to his father, who was a village blacksmith. At the age of 14 he was captain of a military company and attended the State muster. Taught singing school in Andover, Ludlow and Cavendish, Vt. In 1846 he moved to Boston, following the trade of his father, and perfected himself in his musical studies. In 1850 he joined the Handel and Haydn society. During his residence in Boston he



was a member of the following church choirs: Bowdoin square, Park street, Old South and Winter street churches. April 27, 1857, he married Mrs. Martha A. Farnum of Nashua, N. H., and on his wedding day came to the new settlement of Hyde Park to live, and occupied his new house, No. 237 Fairmount avenue. In the early days of the town he taught singing school and was a leader in many successful concerts that were given for church and social purposes. He died in Hyde Park April 8, 1891. His wife died Aug. 18, 1896. The interment of both was at Nashua, N. H. His only son, Charles O. Benton, died Jan. 19, 1886, aged 27 years; his interment was in the old cemetery in Milton.

JOHN S. HOBBS, the son of Eben and Mrs. Nancy Stinson Hobbs, was born in Camden, Me., Feb. 4, 1828. He was one of eight children: Charles F., George P., Josiah S., John S., Oakes P., Sarah E., Caroline M. and Nancy S. John S. Hobbs worked on a farm and drove a team until he was 22 years old and attended the district school during the winters until he was 19 years old, he then came to Boston and secured a situation in a butter, cheese and fruit store on Merchants row. Later he worked in a lime, cement and plaster store and in a short time he had a store of his own. In 1855 he joined the Twenty Associates and in the spring of 1856 they commenced building of the houses in Fairmount. Mr. Hobbs built house No. 268 Fairmount avenue; afterward it became the home for many years of Mr. Seth Blackmer and family. Mr. Hobbs was never married and did not occupy his house; his home for many years was at the Marlboro Hotel in Boston and his place of business was at 102 State street, a dealer in lime, cement, plaster, hair, coal, etc. He was an honorable and upright man. He died at Hotel Osborn, 57 Cushing avenue, Boston, Oct. 8, 1893, aged 65 years, and the interment was at Camden, Me.

JOHN NEWTON BROWN was born in Candia, N. H., Aug. 7, 1824, and died in Roxbury, Mass., Nov. 18, 1880. He worked on a farm and at carpentering until he was 23 years old. After graduating from the Bridgewater Normal school he taught school in New Bedford and Roxbury for several years, and then went into the fire insurance business in Boston, in which he continued until his death. He was married in Roxbury in 1853 to Miss Elizabeth M. Hunt. He built the house at No. 282 Fairmount avenue (occupied for a long time by J. F. Hodges, and now owned and completely altered by Hamburger) but never lived here. He was one of the first directors of the Real Estate and Building Co. in 1857 and took a deep interest in the building up of Hyde Park, always attending the meetings of the Company up to his death. In 1858 he was one of the Trustees of the Hyde Park and Fairmount Steam Car Company. He was also a director of the Revere Beach & Lynn R.R.

JESSE W. PAYSON was born Nov. 6, 1815, in Hope, Me., and died in Hyde Park Sept. 17, 1889. He was educated in the common schools of that town, and in the Waterville Institute. As an author of writing books his name became a household word in this country. He it was who first gave to students a scientific analysis of script writing, and he originated the lithograph copy for common school writing books. From 1861-1877 Mr. Payson was a member of the Faculty at the Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y. As professor of penmanship and bookkeeping he taught thousands of pupils, among them many of the distinguished men of the country, including President Eliot of Harvard College, and ex-Mayor Seth Low of New York. He was the Secretary and one of the Directors of the Park Bank in Brooklyn for several years. Mr. Payson was the author of a popular series of works on bookkeeping, and was called as an expert to adjust accounts in important cases. Mr. Payson's skill in writing brought him many medals, including one given at the Centennial in Philadelphia. He was a man of generous impulses, and advanced in his christian views. At the twentieth celebration of Hyde Park anniversary in 1888, he responded to the toast "The Twenty Associates." Mr. Payson's first wife died at Union, Me. His second wife, well known in the world of letters, died in Hyde Park in 1906. He had two children, W. H. Payson, now of San Francisco, and Mrs. Matilda Cushing, a former Fairmount school teacher, who married again, moved to Maine and is now deceased.

ALPHONSO J. ROBINSON was a native of Meredith, N. H. He was born Jan. 31, 1821, and was the son of Col. Noah and Nancy Wadleigh Robinson. The subject of our sketch was one of a large family; he had nine brothers and sisters. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1848 and taught school for several years, becoming a professor of mathematics in a military academy. He was a man of fine

literary abilities and wrote a number of school books which were successful in his time, among them being the Colton series of geographies used in the schools some forty years ago. Mr. Robinson was a very reticent man, was never married, and only lived in Fairmount a few years. After his school teaching days he studied for the bar and practiced in Boston. He became attorney for several railroads and the Mercantile Savings Institution. While in Hyde Park he took a deep interest in local affairs and was first President of the Fairmount and Hyde Park Choral Society. He died in Lowell April 24, 1889.

JOHN WILLIAMS built the house No. 281 Fairmount avenue in the summer of 1856, and moved into it with his family in October of that year. The house was afterwards sold to Benjamin F. Leseur who occupied it nearly forty years. Mr. Williams was a son of Thomas C. and Eliza Williams, the eldest of six children, and was born in Warren, R. I. Feb. 6, 1815. In 1838 he married Miss Elizabeth P. Freeborn of Portsmouth, R. I. One child, Abby, was born to them April 15th, 1842, who was married to Samuel N. Piper Nov. 7, 1867 and who taught the Fairmount School during the years of 1863-4 and 5. Mr. Williams was collector for the Boston Gas Light Co., and for several years held a government position in the Navy Yard at Charlestown. He was a director in the United States Loan Fund Association in 1853-4 and a Trustee of the first Religious Society of Fairmount in 1857. He was also Treasurer of the Twenty Associates. Mrs. Williams died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Samuel N. Piper, corner Highland Street and Fairmount Avenue, October 9, 1879.

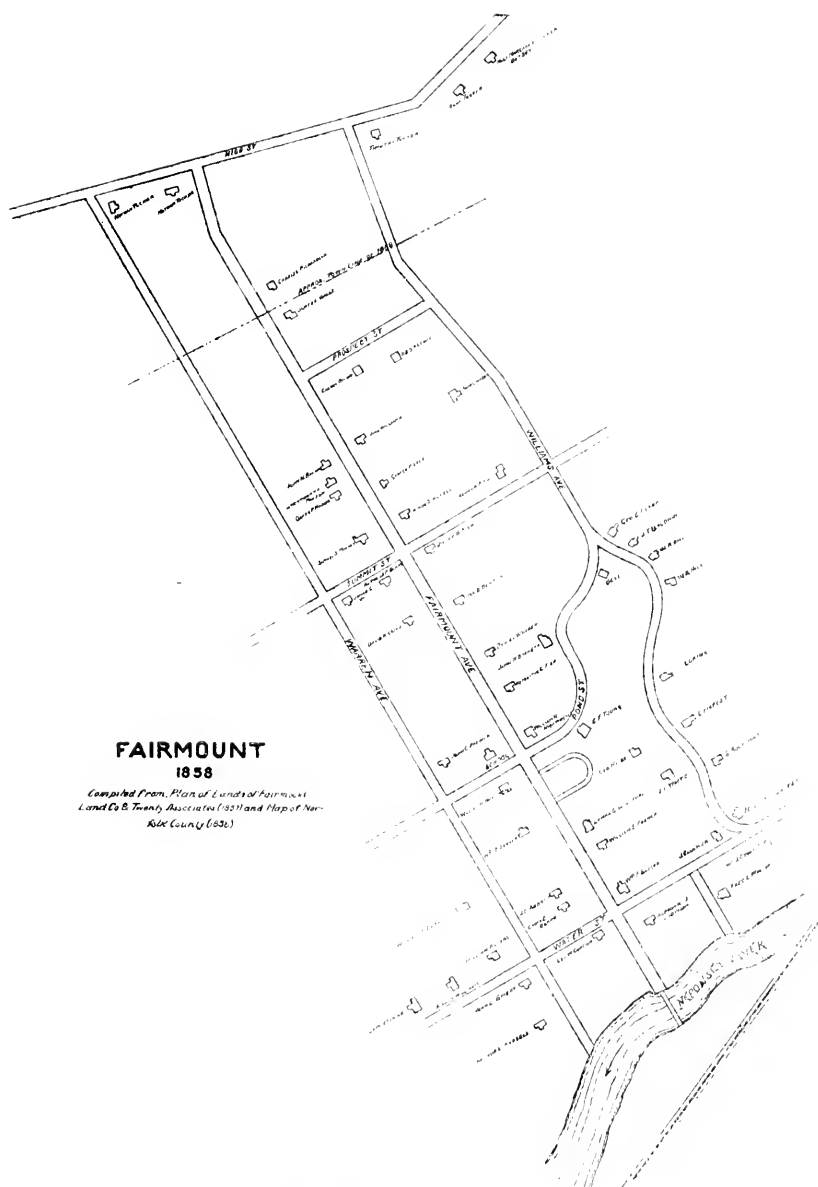
AMOS S. ANGELL was born at Deer Isle, Me., May, 1830, and died Mar. 9, 1902, at 112 Berkeley street, Boston. He was buried at Deer Isle, Me. At the age of 15 he began a seafaring life, and served as seaman and first officer until he was 20 years old. He was then commander of a vessel and continued so until 1858. During one of his at-home seasons in 1856 he joined the Twenty Associates. Upon his arrival in Boston in 1858 from a two years' voyage (between Boston and South America, England, Havana, Cuba, Pensacola, Fla., and New York) he gave up his vessel and went to Fairmount where his parents resided, corner Fairmount Ave. and Pond street. He sold out his interest in his vessel and bought out Weeman & Storey, the first grocers in Fairmount, on site of Savage's old store. He conducted this business two or three years and then sold out and again followed the sea until 1872. In the meantime his family, wife and one child, died and were buried at Deer Isle. In 1873 he returned to Hyde Park and lived with his parents until 1874. In 1874 he came to Boston and entered into the house painting business, continuing in that business until about 1900, when he was stricken with Bright's disease. Mr. Angell was well educated and at one time in his early years taught school in his native town. He was Fairmount's second Postmaster.

JOHN E. ABBOTT is the only one of the Twenty Associates whose life is practically a sealed book to the historian at this late day. He and his brother Russell were interested in the Fairmount Land Co. Mr. Abbott was in the tailoring business in the old Mercantile Building on Summer St., Boston. In this building were the offices of the Fairmount Land Co. and Real Estate and Building Co., and probably this fact brought him into contact with the promoters of the Fairmount Settlement and led to his being one of the Twenty Associates. Mr. Enoch E. Blake remembers him as being in the tailoring business in Boston up to about 1870. He then lost track of him and a few years after heard of his being in the same business in Portland, Maine.

## HYDE PARK AND FAIRMOUNT CHORAL SOCIETY

Ordinarily a musical society and shade trees are not linked together, but Fairmount is said to be indebted to the above society for the beautiful shade trees standing up and down Fairmount avenue and on other streets in our town. This society was organized in 1858. Its first officers were Prof. A. J. Robinson, Pres. W. F. Cary, Sec. and Treas. Wm. A. Blazo, Wm. Rogers and Ira L. Benton, directors. Mr. Benton was chorus conductor.

They gave six public rehearsals each year, to the delight of the village inhabitants. One grand concert they gave brought in money enough to carry out their plan of shade trees for Fairmount's highways.



**FAIRMOUNT  
1858**

*Compiled From Plan of Lands of Fairmount  
Land Co & Twenty Associates (1831) and Map of Nor-  
folk County (1836)*

**First Plan of Fairmount.**

To Clarence G. Norris we are indebted for the tracing and enlargement of this map, and to the Historical Society for the use of this cut and the three views of Fairmount.

## THE FIRST TWENTY HOUSES.

The Twenty Associates had a well-defined plan in settling Fairmount. After their land was purchased they had Civil Engineer Breck of Milton map out the entire section and locate the streets. Fairmount avenue, named after the new settlement itself, was selected as the street upon which their own twenty houses were to be built. An architect was engaged to make a set of plans and it was agreed that the entire twenty houses were to be exactly alike. By this plan a large saving in plans and materials could be effected and the work carried forward much more expeditiously. Another important reason for this was to avoid all feelings of jealousy that one man's house was better than another's, and it was a wise arrangement. The question has also frequently been asked why these men, some without families and none of them with any money to spare, built such large houses. The answer is mainly this: A. P. Blake, who was the master mind in the enterprise, said it would make a more imposing looking community and bring others to join the settlement. And it did.

A brief record of these first twenty houses will be of value to the future historian and the present status and location will be of interest to the many men and women who have come to Hyde Park in recent years.

The first house built was on the corner of Fairmount avenue and Beacon street, which was then known as Water street. The ground for this house was broken May 1, 1856, and the frame raised fifteen days later. The house has been better locally known as the Carlton house, through its purchase by Rev. Mr. Carlton, who was pastor of the Congregational Society, which worshipped at that time in "Braggs Hall," then situated where Palmer's paint shop now stands on Fairmount avenue, near the railroad crossing. A number of other tenants have occupied it since, and each year added to its rack and ruin, until finally after being deserted for over a year and the target for small boys and firebugs, who made several attempts to destroy it, it was purchased by George M. Peabody with the sole object of ridding the neighborhood of a menace and eye-sore. He in turn sold it for less than he paid for it to Frank Rogers who tore it down and used the material in constructing another house in the "Corriganville" section. The land on which it stood is still in possession of the Carlton family, John F. Carlton, son of the minister, residing at Sandwich, Mass., being the owner. This house was built for George W. Currier, who was a contractor and had charge of building the twenty original houses. When this house was raised there were present David Higgins, a carpenter on the construction work; the late Henry A. Rich, who, although not a member of the Twenty Associates, was connected with the enterprise from the very beginning and was master painter on the houses; his brother, Dwight B. Rich, one of the Twenty, and William F. Badger, who, although not one of the Twenty, was a close follower. He had the contract for all the stairs in the twenty houses, and was so charmed with the locality that he built his house on the opposite corner within a year and brought his bride there in June, 1857. Others present were John Lawson, David Higgins' brother-in-law, and William H. Nightingale, all three of whom were carpenters on the houses; besides a number of the Associates who were not active participants in the construction work.

Mr. Currier moved into the house in 1856, and in about seven months his wife died there. Her death was the first in the new settlement and the funeral was most pathetic. There was only a narrow footbridge over the Neponset River then and the coffin had to be carried over this narrow way to the waiting cortege on the opposite side of the river. Mr. Currier's spirit was broken by the death of his wife and he moved from Hyde Park in 1862. Dr. A. H. Chapin, Hyde Park's first physician, resided in this house for a short time.

On the opposite side of the avenue, on the corner of Water street, Alpheus J. Robinson built his house. This one of the Twenty enjoyed the title of "Professor." He was proficient in music and was the president and leader of the Hyde Park and Fairmount Choral Society, which was organized in 1858, a brief sketch of which appears elsewhere in this Bulletin. Prof. Robinson's house is better known today as the Washburn house, and its exterior is much changed with additions.

The third house going up the hill was constructed for Enoch E. Blake, brother of Alpheus P., a long-time resident here, postmaster in 1861 under President Lincoln, and who afterwards moved to a more up-to-date place on Albion street.

This house is now a part of the Peabody estate and has been moved back from the street to make room for the more modern house on the corner. Mr. Blake is one of the three known living members of the Twenty Associates, and now resides in Boston.

The next house in line was the one built for John E. Abbott. Mr. Abbott never occupied it. The house is but little changed and is now and has been occupied for a long time by Prof. Luther O. Emerson, the noted composer.

Directly across the street from the Emerson house is the one built for W. E. French, who was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1855. For many years this place was known as the "Sumner house." In 1905, Charles H. Haley bought the place and has made a wonderful change in its appearance. It is now made over into a double house and all resemblance of its original form has been wiped out.

Crossing the street again was the house of William H. Seavey, a prominent man in those days, and master, for many years, of the Girls High and Normal School in Boston. Mr. Seavey lived here until 1866, when Benjamin F. Radford bought the place, and to the present generation of Hyde Parkers the place is known by his name. Mr. Radford made a beautiful estate of it. With its fine face front wall and its raised flower gardens, the citizens of the town have always been proud of it. Mr. Radford himself took keen delight in his house and grounds and lived there for nearly thirty years. In 1893 he built two new houses on Franklin Terrace for two of his children and gave up his Fairmount avenue home early in 1894 when he retired from active business. He passed away in November, 1894, while residing with one of his children, widely mourned by the community for whose service his time and talents were always ready. After Mr. Radford's death the place was purchased by Charles H. Haley, who remodelled it and built a three-story apartment house on the Warren avenue side of the lot. The main house has been occupied as a boarding house since the alterations were completed.

Next to the Seavey place was the house built for William H. Nightingale, who was a prominent grocer on Washington street, Boston, in 1855. In the early '60's it was for a time the home of Thomas Hammond, one of Hyde Park's first post-masters. Later the home of Samuel E. Ward, a Boston banker, and after his removal it became the property of Henry N. Bates, the present owner and occupant. This place has been kept in good condition and the house modernized by extensive piazzas and porches.

Following along on the same side of the avenue the next house was that of John C. French. Mr. French did not reside here long and sold the house to Thomas Bennett, who made extensive alterations so that today it looks different from any of the original twenty. Mr. Bennett sold to Theodore D. Weld, the noted abolitionist, in March, 1864. The house, during the lifetime of the Welds, was a mecca for men and women who labored for the freedom and advancement of the human race. Mr. Weld died here February 4, 1895. His wife, Angelina, passed away here in 1879, and her sister, Sarah Grimke, also a noted worker in the anti-slavery cause, died in the same house in 1871.

Across the street from the French, or more popularly speaking, the "Weld" house, was the home erected for Hypolitus C. Fisk, who is the only one of the twenty pioneers who still lives in Hyde Park. Mr. Fisk has retired from active life and is spending the sunset of his days with his daughter, Mrs. Marshall T. Burnett, whose home is on Pond street, in the rear of the old homestead erected by her father in 1856. The Fisk house has had many transient tenants in recent years and is but little changed from its original construction.

Next to the Fisk house was the home of Hon. Daniel Warren, a prominent man in the early days, a member of the Massachusetts Senate from Boston, just previous to his coming to Fairmount. While Mr. Warren's house was getting the finishing touches he brought his family here, and yielded to the kindly entreaties of Mr. Fisk to stay awhile in his house until Mr. Warren's was more comfortably finished. It was in the Fisk House that James L. Warren was born, Nov. 30, 1856, the first baby in the new settlement of Fairmount. The Warren homestead is still in possession of the family and now occupied by Weldon S. Martin.

Next to the Warren house was Ira L. Benton's place. Mr. Benton was a resident of Hyde Park from 1856 until his death in 1891, but lived most of his life while here on Winthrop street and on Harvard avenue, near the centre of the town.

He was one of the conspicuous members of the Twenty from the beginning. In his youth he learned the blacksmiths trade, and worked at it off and on. He had a good voice and was foremost in all musical events in the early days of the town. This house was for some time the home of Geo. H. Rand, a Boston tea merchant, who died in 1896, his widow continuing to reside there until her death, some five or six years later. The house is now occupied by Arthur L. Russell.

Adjoining the Benton place was the house built for Dwight B. Rich, a brother to Henry A. Rich, and one of the hardest workers in the new colony and to whose determination and bull-dog tenacity credit must be given that the enterprise was not abandoned. Mr. Rich lived here about twenty years and was interested in many land companies in other sections. The place is now better known as the Melville P. Morrell house.

Across the street was the home of David Higgins, and still occupied by his widow. This is the only house of the twenty which has its original tenant. Mrs. Higgins was married to David Higgins Feb. 22, 1857, and her honeymoon trip was a carriage drive from Boston through the thinly settled country to the new home which Mr. Higgins had labored on for months to prepare for his bride.

Next to the Higgins house was the home of Alpheus P. Blake, the President and ruling spirit of the Twenty Associates. This house was burned to the ground in 1896 while occupied by Jas. T. Hawkins, a builder who now resides in Norwood.

On the opposite corner what is now and has been known for many years as the Bidwell place, was the home of Samuel S. Mooney, who conducted a number of successful barber shops in Boston. At the time of his residence here he conducted the barber shop connected with the old Marlboro Hotel, then situated on Washington street between Winter and Franklin streets.

Next to the Mooney house, John S. Hobbs built a house which he never occupied. He was a successful Boston merchant, a bachelor, and never resided here. The Blackmer family have lived on this estate so long that their name is the only one connected with it by the present generation.

Adjoining the Hobbs' house comes Jesse Wentworth Payson's place. His widow has kept it all these years and only recently died. Mr. Payson was a man of distinction in his time. He was the originator of penmanship books as used in the public schools today and a member of the old publishing house of Duntton, Payson & Scribner, predecessors of the famous publishing house of the Scribners of today. The house is practically unchanged.

Across the street from the Mooney or Bidwell place was the home of Captain Amos S. Angell. Mr. Angell was the brother of Mrs. Dwight B. Rich. The house has been known for many years as the "Raeder" place. In this house, previous to the Raeder occupancy, lived Capt. Horatio G. Raynes, a noted blockade runner during the war, and strange stories are told of his hiding there while the government was seeking him for scuttling a ship load of slaves.

Again crossing the street we come to what is now known as the Hamburger place. This estate has been entirely modernized and bears little resemblance to its former self. This house was built for John N. Brown, for many years a Boston insurance agent. Mr. Brown was only nominally one of the Twenty Associates, as he never came here to reside, but always took an active interest in the enterprise. Previous to Mr. Hamburger's purchase, the family of J. F. Hodges occupied it.

Opposite this was the last house of the Twenty and the one farthest up the hill. It was built for John Williams, Treasurer of the Twenty Associates and for whom Williams avenue was named. The house has undergone extensive alterations, is now and has been for many years the home of the Leseur family.

### TID-BITS OF LOCAL HISTORY

The first store in Fairmount was kept by George Pierce, in a little building which stood just about where the residence of the late Mr. Giles now stands. It was only there a little while and then the building was moved down Summit street almost opposite Mount Pleasant street, and it still stands there, the little house on a steep bank, the second from Williams avenue.

The long white house on Summit street, directly in front of Mount Pleasant street, was built by the late Henry A. Rich. He brought his bride there and his children were born there. It was his home for some fifteen years. Mrs. Rich for a time taught school in the old Fairmount school.

## HYDE PARK PROFESSIONAL MEN — 1906

Hyde Park, 1874-1906

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412 Sears Building  
Boston**CHARLES G. CHICK**

COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

28 State Street  
Boston**EDWARD S. FELLOWS**

COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Room 64 Rogers Bldg.  
209 Washington Street

Telephone, 2697-2 Main BOSTON

**CHARLES F. JENNEY**

COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

35 Congress Street

1102-1105 Monks Bldg. Boston

Hyde Park, 1875-1906

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Unity Building  
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COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

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Residence:  
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90-91 Albion Bldg.  
1 Beacon St.

62 W. River St. BOSTON

**CHARLES F. SPEAR**

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

16 State Street

Residence:  
32 Pierce St., Hyde Park Boston

1900

1906

**OLSTIN M. HIGGINS**

ARCHITECT

9 Neponset Block

**GEO. E. M. DICKINSON**

TEACHER OF VIOLIN

Studio, Room 9  
Dickinson's  
Orchestra Masonic Block

# FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

## Banquet and Entertainment

Under the auspices of the  
Historical Society and Fairmount Improvement Association

Thursday Evening, April 19, 1906

WAVERLY HALL

### INVOCATION

REV. SAMUEL G. BABCOCK

## MENU

HOT CHICKEN PIE	MASHED POTATOES
SHRIMP SALAD	CHICKEN SALAD
COLD HAM	
CREAM PUFFS	FROZEN PUDDING
ICE CREAM	ASSORTED CAKE
COFFEE	

W. K. HOWE, CATERER

### SUB-COMMITTEES

#### Committee on Hall and Decorations.

Mrs. E. E. Badger, Mrs. James F. Mooar, Mrs. Clarence U. Meiggs, Mrs. John C. Hurter, Mrs. Charles F. Spear. Mr. Charles A. Boynton, Mr. Edwin E. Bartlett, Mr. Harold Mason, Dr. John A. Morgan, Mr. Arthur T. Rogers.

#### Reception and Entertainment Committee.

Mrs. Wilbur H. Powers, Mrs. Charles L. Alden, Mrs. Fred L. Johnson, Mrs. Samuel E. Blanchard, Mrs. L. P. Winchenbaugh, Mrs. Archibald MacGregor, Mrs. Samuel T. Elliott, Mrs. F. W. Sawtelle, Mrs. David Higgins, Mrs. Clara Raeder, Mrs. Louise M. Wood, Mrs. Annie H. Weld, Mrs. David W. Lewis, Mrs. A. E. Swallow, Mrs. George W. Hanchett. Mr. William J. Webber, Mr. Charles F. Jenney, Mr. Charles G. Chick, Mr. Charles L. Alden, Mr. Frank B. Rich, Mr. Clifford H. Bullard, Mr. Wilbur H. Powers, Mr. Edward E. Badger, Mr. Archibald MacGregor, Mr. Harry J. West, Mr. Lester P. Winchenbaugh.

#### Press and Program Committee.

Joseph W. Harpan, John Appell, Samuel E. Blanchard, John W. McMahon, George H. B. Beals.



# Post-Prandial Exercises



**CHARLES G. CHICK, Toastmaster**

OPENING REMARKS - - - - - CHARLES G. CHICK  
 VOCAL SELECTION - - - - - BEETHOVEN QUARTETTE

## “The Birth of Fairmount”

ONE OF THE TWENTY - - - - - ENOCH E. BLAKE  
 BOYHOOD RECOLLECTIONS - - - - - GEORGE B. WARREN  
 IN THE SIXTIES - - - - - E. E. WILLIAMSON

VOCAL SELECTION - - - - - BEETHOVEN QUARTETTE

## “Development and Growth of Hyde Park”

DEVELOPMENT - - - - - Rev. PERLEY B. DAVIS  
 GROWTH - - - - - EDWARD I. HUMPHREY

VOCAL SELECTION - - - - - BEETHOVEN QUARTETTE

## “Maturity of Hyde Park”

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIX - - - - - EDWIN C. JENNEY  
 OUR MANUFACTURES - - - - - A. L. LOVEJOY

VOCAL SELECTION - - - - - BEETHOVEN QUARTETTE

## “The Future of Hyde Park”

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS - - - - - C. H. GIFFORD  
 RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT - - - - -  
 ORCHESTRA SELECTIONS } “Auld Lang Syne”  
 } “America” DICKINSON'S ORCHESTRA

## HYDE PARK PROFESSIONAL MEN — 1906

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General Practitioner 1870-1906

Medical Examiner, District No. 2,  
Norfolk County, 1872-1906Office Hours 16 Maple Street  
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9 to 12; 1 to 5

Telephone 145 W. River St.

**HENRY R. HITCHCOCK**

Associate Medical Examiner

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Unity Building

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62**SAMUEL T. ELLIOTT, D.M.D.**

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551 Boylston Street

BOSTON

**JOHN A. MORGAN, M. D.**Office Hours  
2-4, 7-9 P. M.

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**DR. F. B. STEVENS**

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**DR. CHAS. FRANCIS STACK**Office Hours  
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139 West River Street

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**DR. J. P. RATTIGAN**

DENTIST

Plummer Block

Telephone Connection Cleary Square

**FREDERICK W. DODGE, M.D.**

Office Hours

Until 9 A.M. and 1-2.30, 6-7 P.M.

155 West River Street

**GEO. L. RICHARDSON**

SURVEYOR

29 Pine Street

**LUCY B. HALL, M. D.**Office Hours  
2 to 4 P. M.

5 French's Block

**E. A. W. HAMMATT**

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CONSULTING ENGINEER, CIVIL  
AND HYDRAULIC ENGINEER

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## HYDE PARK LAND COMPANIES.

The Twenty Associates were but one of many organizations who purchased large tracts of land for development in the territory which comprises Hyde Park. These land companies or groups of individuals are important links in Hyde Park's history and a brief sketch, incomplete as it is, is still worth recording.

Previous to the purchase of Fairmount by the Twenty Associates, a settlement had been planned beyond the Providence Railroad, which had been opened for traffic in 1834 as far as Dedham Plains, later called Readville. On June 26, 1847, Samuel W. Swift, Enoch Baldwin and Cheever Newhall bought about 200 acres in what is now known as the Sunnyside district, and transferred it shortly after to Charles A. White. On Sept. 1, 1853, this same property was conveyed to W. P. Barnard, Rev. Henry Lyman and O. D. Ashley as trustees for the Hyde Park Land Co., a name given by Rev. Mr. Lyman. Among those who formed this early group of pioneers are known to have been, in addition to the three named above, Gordon H. Nott, Albert Bowker, S. O. Mead and W. A. Cary. The holdings of this company were quite extensive and ran down through what is now the business section of the town as far as Walnut street and included Mount Neponset.

In 1854 a few surveys had been made and in 1855 Gordon H. Nott had dug the cellar for his house (still standing) and moved into his new home in 1856. Rev. Henry Lyman commenced his stone house in 1855 and moved into it in 1856. This house, now better locally known as the Col. Bachelder place on Gordon avenue, is today, 1906, said to be in the hands of a real estate syndicate, who are to build a modern settlement of three-story apartment houses on the estate and use the old stone house for cellar foundation stones. Progress, however, was decidedly slow on that side of the Providence Railroad, in spite of the fact that Rev. Mr. Lyman raised money enough from the landowners in that section to build in 1858, the first railroad station in the present town of Hyde Park. This little building was erected on a steep bank alongside the railroad track, nearly opposite the present Hyde Park station. Lyman Hall was situated in the upper story, where religious services were held for a time. But very few houses were built in this section, in fact for nearly ten years this settlement lay dormant, the new village of Fairmount making rapid strides in the meantime.

### The Fairmount Land Company and Twenty Associates.

Organized Sept. 5, 1855, by A. P. Blake, David Higgins, Dwight B. Rich, John Williams, Daniel Warren, George W. Currier, J. Wentworth Payson, H. C. Fisk, Samuel S. Mooney, John E. Abbott, Amos S. Angell, Enoch E. Blake, Ira L. Benton, John N. Brown, J. C. French, William E. French, John S. Hobbs, A. J. Robinson, William H. Seavey and William H. Nightingale.

This company, with A. P. Blake as president and John Williams as treasurer, bought about 100 acres of land at \$200 per acre, from the rear ends of the Milton farms of Timothy and Nathan Tucker, the land running practically from Prospect street down to the Neponset river. The deeds for this property were dated Nov. 23, 1855. Each member of the company agreed to erect a homestead and was to have 35,000 feet of land for himself,—137 feet frontage and a depth of 250 feet. The twenty houses were to be alike and the total expense, exclusive of grading and digging wells, was about \$60,000, which was divided between them. After these twenty houses were built and the settlement had assumed a civilized basis many of these pioneers turned their eyes to what is now the central part of Hyde Park and purchased land there, and in 1859 the Fairmount Land Company and Twenty Associates was merged into a new company called the Real Estate and Building Company, which received a corporate charter in 1861.

### The Real Estate and Building Company.

The land holdings of this company were like an octopus. They had sections of land in every direction of Hyde Park. One of their early maps shows that in the section between the Neponset river on the one side, the Providence Railroad on the other, Lincoln street at one end, and Stony Brook and the Summer estate in Clarendon Hills at the other, the land was practically all theirs, the Greenwood Farm being the only sizable plot which they did not control. This section alone represented two communities, Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills. The company also

had other large tracts in Fairmount, in the Corriganville district and on the hill near the water tower. Part of their holdings were purchased from the Hyde Park Land Company. Their charter was granted February 6, 1861, for a period of twenty years. In 1864 it was broadened and they received authority from the Legislature to purchase 500 acres additional anywhere within a radius of two miles from the woolen mill. In 1880 the charter was extended for five years; in 1885 for ten years more, and in 1895 it expired and the company was required by the general law to wind up its affairs inside of three years. On May 1, 1899, the last undivided piece of property belonging to the company, a house and land on Bradlee street, Clarendon Hills, was sold at public auction. All the rest of the company's holdings were divided between the company's stockholders.

#### **Hyde Park Associates.**

Organized Jan. 1, 1887. Membership was limited to forty-two. Owned parcels of land on Fairmount in the neighborhood of Beacon street, and on Fairview avenue near the cemetery. A co-operative investment enterprise. Is in existence today.

#### **Greenwood Farm Tract.**

An old landmark. What was left of this farm was plotted out into seventy-three house lots in April, 1894. The land extended from East river to Westminster street and from Metropolitan avenue to Huntington avenue. A new street was opened up through the farm and named Lexington avenue. Jefferson street was planned to run across it diagonally, but has never been completed.

#### **Holmfild.**

A tract of land bounded by the Neponset River on one side and running up to East River street. The streets in this territory are Mattakeeset, Monponset, Massasoit, Wachusett and Osceola streets and Holmfild avenue. This tract was developed in May, 1894, by the Blue Hill Terrace Co. and was a very successful venture.

#### **Pinehurst.**

A section of Readville, lying between West River, Milton and Readville streets. Placed on the market in July, 1896, by the five associates, comprising Charles F. Jenney, Edwin C. Jenney, Henry B. Terry, H. E. B. Waldron and Mrs. Henry C. Stark. Gets its name from a large growth of Pine trees on the land. The lots sold very well for the first two years, but very little has been done in the past five years and many lots remain unsold.

#### **Oakwood Park.**

This land runs along Wood avenue and extends towards Rugby. Opened up by the Blue Hill Terrace Co. in 1894. Not a large tract and the lots and houses are rather small.

#### **Rugby.**

A large tract near River street station, adjoining the Boston line, in fact part of the settlement is in Boston. Wood, Harmon & Co., real estate promoters, who have opened up many tracts of land throughout the country, put this section on the market April, 1894. It was opened up with a great blare of trumpets and nearly all the lots sold, but it has never gone much beyond the first spurt. A fine new station of the N. E. R.R. was erected on the land by the promoters, but this was soon closed by the R.R. Company for lack of patronage. One peculiar feature of this section is that every street in it commences with "R," and the streets are called roads instead of streets or avenues. These roads are named Regent, Radcliffe, Ranson, Ralston, Roseberry, Kutledge, Ruskin, Roanoke, Ridge, Rock, Roland and Richmond roads.

#### **Sergeant Blake Farm.**

Near River street station. Contained about 12 acres. Was put on the market July, 1871. Blake street in this section derives its name from this farm.

**People's Land Co.**

A section partly in Boston. Mapped out May 1, 1893. The land lies along Newburn and Chase streets in the Clarendon Hills section.

**Shepardale.**

Named in honor of John Shepard, head of the house of Shepard, Norwell Co., Boston, who owned the land and turned it over to Leslie C. Swift, a real estate dealer, to develop. The land adjoins the New England R. R. at River street station. It was put on the market in 1899, but has not been a very successful venture.

**Glenwood Heights.**

A more euphonious name for a tract of land which is part of what is better locally known as "Corriganville." The land runs from Washington street partly into Milton, adjoining the Van Brunt and Hunt estates and James Tucker's lands. The streets included in it are Wolcott road, Cottage street and Van Brunt street. The tract was named Glenwood Heights and opened up in 1897. Many small houses have been built on it by working men who were ambitious to own their own homes. Boston capital was back of this venture.

**The Metropolitan Land Co.**

A company formed to develop a big tract in the Clarendon Hills section. Placed on the market in 1877. Most of the land was in Boston and the Hyde Park section of it contains thus far few houses. This company was really only one of the subsidiary companies of the Real Estate & Building Co., formed because their own charter did not allow them to own any more land than they already had.

**Blanchard Farm Tract.**

In Readville near the Cotton mill. Cut up into house lots in 1893 by Charles F. Jenney, Edwin C. Jenney and H. C. Stark. The land adjoins the Pinehurst tract. Blanchard street was constructed and run through the tract, and Norton street continued across it.

**The Reddy Tract.**

A section facing East River street near the Paper mills. Opened up April 11, 1896, by Thomas F. Reddy a Boston speculator. Four new streets were added to Hyde Park's topography by the laying out of this plot. Frazer, La Fevre and Rosa streets and Reddy avenue. Many houses were constructed and the section has been a most fruitful one for foreclosure sales.

**Grew Farm Tract.**

In July, 1905, a section of this big tract, owned by the Grew family since 1846, was mapped out for house lots. Summer street was extended through to West street, and the land from Austin street down to the Providence Railroad and extending up to West street was placed on the market.

**Hamilton Park, Readville.**

This land is part of the old camp ground. It lies between Prescott street and the Neponset river and from the trotting park down towards Milton street. Placed on the market in 1896 by a company of which George L. Litchfield was the head. Is now a prosperous community. A small public park is in this settlement.

**THE FAIRMOUNT SCHOOL.**

The Fairmount school had its first session in the parlor of David Higgins house in 1857. It was moved in 1858 to the new hall erected by George Pierce, on the corner of Highland street and Fairmount avenue. This building was afterwards moved across the street and stood for many years where the residence of Archibald R. Sampson now stands, and was moved to the rear lot when that house was built. The Hyde Park Baptist church also had its earliest preaching services in this hall, then known as Fairmount Hall. In 1871 the present Fairmount school building was erected. For a few years it was called the Blake school in honor of A. P. Blake, but agitation by some citizens to preserve the old name of Fairmount in connection with the school finally prevailed and its original name again attached to it.

## IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATIONS OF HYDE PARK.

One of the factors that is today making for the betterment of the Town in a great measure is the Improvement Associations which have been formed. While organized primarily for local benefit, they are all conducted on such broad lines that their effect is to arouse a more general interest in public affairs, and to direct more intelligent action on the part of our citizens. A brief history of each organization in our town today, follows :

### Fairmount Improvement Association.

This association owes its inception to the following citizens, who met at the home of Edwin E. Bartlett on Dana avenue, Jan. 16, 1903: Charles A. Boynton, Edwin E. Bartlett, John W. McMahon, Albert Atkinson, Robert Scott, Edward M. Underhill, Joseph G. Hamblin, Arthur T. Rogers, John Burns, John B. Chadbourne, Joseph Fallon, James McGrath, Joseph W. Harpan, J. W. Griffiths, Martin O'Grady, E. M. Merrill and Lester P. Winchenbaugh. The organization was perfected at a meeting held in Badger's Hall on Jan. 21, 1903, when a constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers elected: President, L. P. Winchenbaugh; vice-presidents, William H. Norris, Edward S. Hayward, E. E. Badger; secretary, E. E. Bartlett; treasurer, Edward W. Cross. Executive committee: George W. Bent, Charles A. Boynton, Oscar Bursch, Wilbur H. Powers, John W. McMahon, William B. Foster, Fred G. Katzmann. Advisory Committee: Dr. W. G. Adams, Hugh J. Stockford, Howard M. Hamblin.

The objects of the association are set forth in Art. II. of the constitution, which reads as follows: "Objects, the organization of residents and tax payers of the Fairmount district for co-operation in obtaining public improvements in this vicinity; for arousing increased interest in the general affairs of the town; for inducing a more intelligent understanding of public expenditures; a more careful scanning of town warrants, and a more general attendance at town meetings."

Any resident or tax payer of the Fairmount district over 18 years of age is eligible for membership.

The association from the start has steadfastly kept out of politics and devoted its entire influence and energies to the betterment of local conditions. Many of the improvements noted during the past three years can be credited to the efforts of this organization, notably the improvement of Dana avenue, the Garfield avenue and Neponset avenue drainage, the Glenwood avenue foot bridge (now building), and the improved sanitary conditions at the Fairmount school. The abolishment of the grade crossings at Fairmount avenue and Bridge street, which has absorbed a large part of the attention of the association for the past two years, is in a fair way of being settled in a manner very satisfactory to our citizens.

The present officers of the association are: President, L. P. Winchenbaugh; vice-president, E. E. Badger; secretary, J. W. Harpan; treasurer, E. W. Cross. Executive Committee: George W. Bent, James A. Tilden, C. A. Boynton, J. W. McMahon, J. J. Keane, W. H. Powers, W. D. Preston, John Hood, E. E. Bartlett, Alfred Foster, Oscar Bursch.

### Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills Improvement Association.

Date of organization Jan. 26, 1903. The officers were George H. Rausch, president; A. D. Wheeler, vice-president; H. E. Whittemore, secretary; W. E. Norwood, treasurer. Board of Directors were E. H. Gallup, J. F. Hayward, Geo. B. Jeffers, W. E. Robinson, F. C. Stone. Present officers are John A. Keefe, president; Edward H. Gallup, vice-president; J. Frank Hayward, secretary; William E. Norwood, treasurer. Present Directors are George Jeffers, Alden D. Wheeler, George H. Rausch, Jervis E. Horr, Stephen Murphy. Regular meetings last Tuesdays in each month except July and August.

The particular work of importance to the Town, the inception and carrying out of which is to be credited to this Association thus far, is the subway at the Hazelwood Station. The officers and founders of this organization feel well repaid for their efforts by the local improvements secured and the increased interest manifested in public affairs by the members.

### Readville Improvement Association.

Organized June 18, 1902, with the following officers: President, J. R. Corthell; vice-president, H. E. Astley; treasurer, Dr. S. T. Elliott; clerk, George S. Cabot; financial secretary, Albert Davenport; directors (beside the above), E. S. Alden, Geo. H. Clapp, Calvin H. Lee, James F. Pring, W. J. W. Wheeler, R. W. Wright. The present officers are H. E. Astley, president; Benj. Clough, vice-president; Dr. S. T. Elliott, treasurer; H. A. Pellett, clerk; Albert Davenport, financial secretary; directors: J. R. Corthell, R. W. Wright, F. C. Putney, J. W. Storer, G. Aldrich, F. L. George. Its present membership is 84. The association aims to better the conditions of the community's life in every possible way. It believes in the broadest scope for its activities. Its motto is "Nothing too small; nothing too great for our consideration, provided it touches the life of our village." The association picks up waste paper from the streets. It appeals to the districts' representative in Congress to vote for laws which will benefit all the people of the country. It seeks to cultivate a deeper and finer social spirit and aims to provide intellectual and æsthetic entertainment for the community in the way of lectures, concerts, etc.

To enumerate the material results of its four years of activity would be wearisome. Better and cleaner streets; better lighted streets; public recreation grounds; better train service; new fire alarm boxes; historical tablets; nuisances abated; unsightly buildings removed; better police protection; protection to shade trees; financial aid to worthy causes. These are but suggestions of what the association has accomplished.

### East River Street Improvement Association.

In March, 1901, a meeting of the citizens of the East River Street section was called by Mr. John G. Ray to take action to procure a new school for the district. After town meeting, at which the necessary preliminary steps were taken, another meeting was held at which Mr. Ray presided. Mr. John G. McCarter thought it would be wise to organize permanently and be known as the East River Street Improvement Association. Thirty-two members signed at once. At the next meeting, constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers elected: President, John G. McCarter; first vice-president, P. Fitzgerald; second vice-president, E. L. Barrett; secretary, H. E. Whittemore; treasurer, H. L. Smith; directors, C. B. Whitney, John G. Ray, Samuel Hodges, B. Corliss. Mr. McCarter served four years as president, and at the time of his death was treasurer of the association. He died in November, 1905, beloved by all who knew him. The present officers are president, Edw. L. Barrett; vice-president H. Moir; treasurer, Gorham E. Stanford; secretary, C. B. Whitney; financial secretary Edgar McLeod; directors, F. W. Lowd, O. Anderson, E. Hodgdon and Samuel Hodges. The present membership is about 70, and the immediate efforts of the association are directed to obtain a bridge over the Neponset at Holmfield. The utilization of the present Fairmount bridge, when it is abandoned, has been suggested and meets with general favor as that district should be provided with inter-communication with Milton better than now exists.

### HYDE PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Organized March 15, 1887.

The formation of this society so early in the Town's history was a fortunate event. Through its effort and inspiration much valuable data connected with the early life of the Town has been collected and preserved. In this work it should be sustained by all public spirited citizens. The present officers are: President, Charles G. Chick; Secretary, Fred L. Johnson; Treasurer, Henry B. Humphrey; Corresponding Secretary and Librarian, Henry B. Carrington.

Curators: Above officers and Charles F. Jenney, S. Evans, George L. Stocking, Frank B. Rich, George L. Richardson, J. K. Corthell, A. F. Bridgman; Editor Historical Record, William A. Mowry.

### THE CELEBRATION OF 1906.

Patriots' Day, April 19, 1906, was chosen to celebrate the semi-centennial of Fairmount on account of being a holiday and near enough to the actual date of settlement.

The celebration was under the joint auspices of the Hyde Park Historical Society and the Fairmount Improvement Association. The beginning of the anniversary exercises were on Wednesday evening, April 18, in Weld Hall, where, amid practically all the historic records of which the young town can boast, interesting speakers recounted the early struggles and ultimate triumphs of those master spirits who put Fairmount on the map and builded the village on the hill.

On the morning of the 19th, at 9 o'clock, the members of the Historical Society and Improvement Association and many citizens congregated in front of the Public Library building for a pilgrimage to the historic places on Fairmount. This feature of the day was under the leadership of Ex-Selectman Frank B. Rich, whose father, the late Henry A. Rich, was present when the first house was built and who had the contract for painting many of the first houses. The principal address by Mr. Rich was made on the site of the Currier house, corner Beacon street and Fairmount avenue, the first house built in the new settlement. The party next visited all the old houses, Mr. Rich giving a brief history of each.

In the afternoon Weld Hall was open for the reception of visitors, who wished to meet together for "Auld Lang Syne's" sake.

In the evening there was a grand Banquet with music and many addresses, the program of which appears on another page.

The committees having the celebration in charge were as follows: For the Historical Society—Charles G. Chick, Charles F. Jenney, Charles L. Alden and Frank B. Rich. For the Fairmount Improvement Association—William J. Webber, chairman; Harold Mason, secretary; Archibald MacGregor, treasurer; Dr. John A. Morgan, Clifford H. Bullard, Samuel E. Blanchard, Charles A. Boynton, Arthur T. Rogers, Edwin E. Bartlett, John W. McMahon, Joseph W. Harpan, John Appell, George H. B. Beals, Wilbur H. Powers, Edward E. Badger, Harry J. West and the President of the Association, Lester P. Winchenbaugh, ex-officio.

Ladies' committee—Mrs. Wilbur H. Powers, chairman; Mrs. Samuel E. Blanchard, Mrs. Archibald MacGregor, Mrs. L. P. Winchenbaugh, Mrs. Fred. L. Johnson, Mrs. E. E. Badger, Mrs. David Higgins, Mrs. Clara Raeder, Mrs. Louise M. Wood, Mrs. David W. Lewis, Mrs. A. E. Swallow, Mrs. C. L. Alden, Mrs. John C. Hurter, Mrs. George W. Hanchett, Mrs. Samuel T. Elliott, Mrs. F. W. Sawtelle, Mrs. C. F. Spear, Mrs. C. U. Meiggs, Mrs. Annie H. Weld and Mrs. J. F. Moar.

### THE FAIRMOUNT AVENUE BRIDGE.

As the Fairmount grade crossing is now in a fair way to be abolished within a year, a brief record of the present Fairmount avenue bridge over the Neponset river is in order. This was the first important public work after the town was incorporated. Benjamin F. Radford, Martin L. Whitcher and William J. Stuart were the committee on construction. The bridge was commenced in Sept., 1868, and finished in January, 1869. In their statement of expenditures we find that \$8,000 was appropriated. For the bridge itself, \$2,799.60 was paid; for stone and granite about \$1,300; for laying stone \$1,363.37, and the balance of about \$2,400 was paid for labor and incidentals. The committee certainly did their work well, and had \$211.04 unexpended balance of their appropriation.





Fairmount from Mount Neponset. Published May 23, 1857.

## THE TUCKER FARMS.

Practically all the land on Fairmount was Tucker farm land. The history of Milton could not be honestly written without frequent mention of this family. The original Tucker, from whom eight generations have sprung and left their impress on Milton life and history, was Robert Tucker, who was born in 1604, in England near a place called Milton. He sailed from Weymouth in England in 1635, and settled in Wassagusset, and through his influence had that settlement name changed to Weymouth in honor of the place in the old world from which he had sailed.

In Nov., 1663, he purchased three tracts of land, containing in all about 117 acres, on "Brush Hill," and was one of the original incorporators of the town of Milton. The evidence seems to point strongly to the presumption that Robert Tucker had much to do with naming the town "Milton," following his previous action in the adjoining town of Weymouth by giving a name connected with his own early life in the old world. He was the first town recorder, also selectman for many terms, and represented the town in the General Court.

The great Blue Hill of 3,000 acres was owned by Boston in Robert Tucker's time, and history records that in order to bring this territory into Milton four citizens purchased the tract and one of these four was Manassah Tucker, son of Robert, but by a decision of the General Court only half of the tract was made a part of Milton, the other half going to Braintree.

Through successive generations Manassah Tucker's share of this land descended to Ebenezer Tucker, his son, later by him to his son, William, and he afterwards transferred it to his nephew, Ebenezer, Jr.

Thirteen deacons have been in the family since Robert's time, and a generation of Tuckers without a pillar of the church has been a rarity.

Nathan Tucker, one of the grantors of Fairmount, died Feb. 6, 1869, at the age of 80 years. Timothy Tucker, the other grantor, was a Milton selectman for seven terms, and died from an accident in 1864. His daughter, Mrs. William Oxtan, still resides in the Timothy Tucker homestead, corner of Williams avenue and Brush Hill road.

Other portions of Fairmount have come from Tucker farms; the land west of Dana avenue coming from the Dana Tucker farm. There was in the early '50's a heavy growth of timber along Dana avenue, and a big cornfield where Neponset avenue now lies.

## SOME OLD FAIRMOUNT HOUSES.

About six months after the houses of the Twenty Associates were completed, six others were built from one set of plans: The Badger house now occupied by Edward E. Badger, son of William F. Badger, who was the original builder; the Hanaford house, where the Baptist church was organized, and now the home of Archibald MacGregor; the Hurter house on Water street, the home of Col. William Rogers in the early sixties, who was a distinguished man in those days, a member of Gov. Andrew's staff and the moderator of Hyde Park's first town meeting; the Putnam house, corner of Fairmount avenue and Highland street; the Eustis house on Warren avenue; and the sixth one was on Beacon street near Warren avenue, of late years owned by Henry N. Bates, and remodeled.

William A. Smith, Eben Cobb, Daniel B. Clement and Thomas Hill came to Fairmount in 1857 and purchased lots. Mr. Smith built in 1858 the house now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. A. M. Kendall, at No. 62 Williams avenue. Mr. Clement built the same year what is now the Bloom house on Pond street. Mr. Cobb built some years later the house still occupied by his family at No. 231 Fairmount avenue. Thomas Hill never built upon his lot but went to California where he became very distinguished as an artist, so much so that the State of California in recognition of his talents built him a studio in Yellowstone Park.

**SAMUEL ALBEE**  
 FISH MARKET  
 55 Fairmount Avenue

From the Oldest Provision Dealer in  
 Hyde Park

**H. S. HOLTHAM**  
 1864-1906  
 59 Fairmount Avenue

**W. G. BATCHELDER**  
 MEATS AND PROVISIONS  
 26 Fairmount Avenue

**A. GARDELLA**  
 CONFECTIONERY, FRUIT  
 AND TOBACCO  
 138 Fairmount Avenue

**BOSTON CASH MARKET**  
 J. H. WETHERBEE, Prop.  
 3 Bank Block

**GEORGE MILES**  
 GROCER  
 Cor. Gordon Avenue and West  
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**H. L. COOKE**  
 MEAT AND PROVISIONS  
 431 Hyde Park Avenue

Established 1871  
**E. D. SAVAGE**  
 HAY, GRAIN, AND GROCERIES  
 117-119 Fairmount Ave.

**FAIRMOUNT MARKET**  
 A. H. STROUT, Prop.  
 141 Fairmount Avenue

Established 1868  
**BENJAMIN E. PHILLIPS**  
 HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER  
 INTERIOR DECORATOR  
 Shop 14 Central Ave. Residence 3 Dell Ave.

**PEOPLE'S MARKET**  
 R. E. BENTLEY, Prop.  
 89 Fairmount Avenue

**G. W. MORSE & SON**  
 PAINTERS AND PAPERHANGERS  
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 FRANK THAYER, Prop.  
 111 West River Street

**D. S. KENNEDY**  
 Fine Harness and Horse  
 Furnishing Goods . . .  
 63 West River Street

## HYDE PARK BUSINESS MEN — 1906

1874, S. B. Balkam, Agent; 1877, S. B. Balkam  
1882, S. B. Balkam Co.; 1901, Wm. H. Harlow

**WILLIAM H. HARLOW**

LUMBER AND COAL

Yard, Cor. Pierce and West Sts.

**A. FISHER**

PERIODICALS AND STATIONERY

Neponset Block

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**TILESTON CHARCOAL CO.**

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Harlow's Coal Yard**WILLIAM ANDERSON**

BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS

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**F. W. DARLING CO.**

COAL

Way Building

**HYDE PARK ICE CREAM  
COMPANY**

WILLIAM K. HOWE, Mgr.

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**TUTTLE'S ELIXIR  
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DR. SAMUEL A. TUTTLE      BOSTON  
Hyde Park**G. MARGOLIUS & CO.**LADIES' TAILORS  
AND DESIGNERS

50 Fairmount Avenue

Established 1885

**RICH BROS.**

DRY GOODS

Everett Square

**FAIRMOUNT HOUSE**

R. J. RENTON, Prop.

101-121 Fairmount Avenue

Established 1877

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FUNERAL UNDERTAKER

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**MAHONY'S EXPRESS**

WILLIAM MAHONY, Prop.

125 Fairmount Avenue

**EVERETT STABLES**

A. RAYMOND, Prop.

HACK, BOARDING AND LIVERY  
STABLE

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**GEORGE B. DOWLEY**

CLOTHING and FURNISHINGS

107-109 West River Street

Cleary Square



Fairmount from Mount Neponset. Published August 13, 1859.

"The Old Reliable"

# Hyde Park Gazette

Established in Dedham, 1813  
Established in Hyde Park, 1868

A Weekly Newspaper that goes into the homes and is loyal in every movement for the betterment of the town and its inhabitants

SAMUEL R. MOSELEY  
Editor and Publisher

ALBERT S. FERRY  
HYDE PARK ICE COMPANY  
Office  
5 Everett Square

THE

# Hyde Park Times

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
PUBLISHED FRIDAYS

"If it happened in Hyde Park you will find it in the Times"

FRANK P. MCGREGOR  
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NOTARY PUBLIC AND JUSTICE  
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Telephone      Wolcott Square  
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# G. W. BENT & CO.

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## Brass and Iron Bedsteads and Fine Bedding

For Sale by all First Class Dealers  
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# HYDE PARK ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.

435 HYDE PARK AVE.



We will furnish TO OUR CUSTOMERS on short notice AT WHOLESALE PRICES

ELECTRIC LAMPS OF ALL KINDS  
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ELECTRIC HEATERS  
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ELECTRIC FLAT-IRONS (only 3½c per hour)  
ELECTRIC COFFEE PERCOLATORS

(One quart of pure coffee in ten minutes for 1c.)

We do not have to explain the advantages of the above over the old style COAL OR GAS STOVES, and consider the following:

**Just Press a Button, We Do the Rest**



NO DANGER FROM SUFFOCATION

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And most important "NO MORE EXPENSIVE."

If your house is not wired for electricity we will be pleased to call and give you estimates on the same.

Information as to rates, etc., will be gladly given at the office,  
435 Hyde Park Avenue. "Tel. 205"

# Dedham & Hyde Park Gas & El. Light Company

The Dedham Gas Light Company was established in 1853 to supply gas to the residents of Dedham. It started with but few miles of mains and less than one hundred meters. The price charged was \$5.00 per thousand cubic feet.

In 1868 the mains were extended to Hyde Park and the Company reorganized under the present name. The price then charged was \$3.50 per thousand cubic feet.

The mains have been extended from year to year and we now have over thirty-two miles of mains, covering all of the principal streets of both towns and over 1600 meters.

The price of gas has been steadily lowered as fast as the consumption would warrant and is now \$1.20 per thousand cubic feet gross, with a discount for prompt payment of from 10c to 30c per thousand cubic feet, making the net price 90c to \$1.10, average price \$1.00, per thousand cubic feet, and is the lowest price made by any Company in New England supplying towns of equal size.

That gas is by far the cheapest and most satisfactory light is best told by the fact that over ninety per cent of the stores of Hyde Park and Dedham are lit by gas and nearly as large per cent of the residences are using gas for lighting.

There are also over 1000 gas cooking ranges in use in our territory and we have demonstrated beyond a doubt that gas for cooking is the cleanest, quickest and cheapest of all fuels.

We are now showing a very extensive line of water heaters, that heat the water for bath or household use instantly and at a small consumption of gas. We also have a large and varied line of room heaters at from \$1.00 up. Just the thing for spring and fall heating.

Gas is a household necessity and should be in every house. If you are not supplied, let us submit estimates. You will be surprised at the low cost of installation.

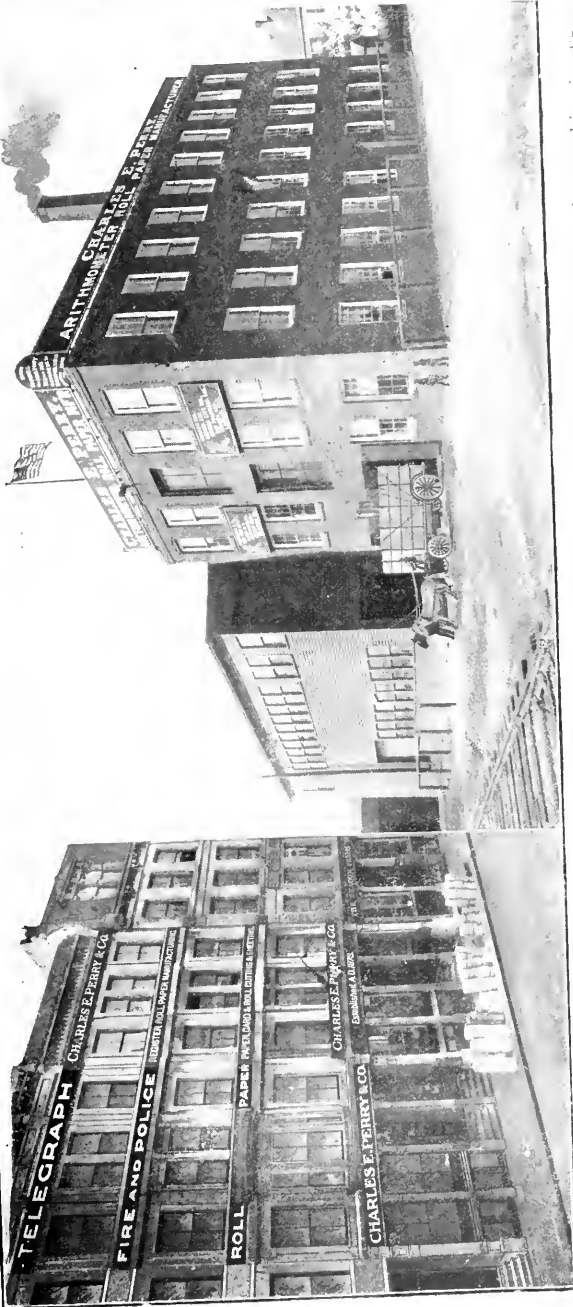
**DEDHAM AND HYDE PARK GAS AND EL. LT. CO.**

Office, 41 West River St., Hyde Park

L. B. JOHNS, Superintendent



# THE FAIRMOUNT PAPER MILLS.



Charles E. Perry & Co. are the proprietors of these mills. They commenced business with one paper cutting machine in 1879 on Federal St., Boston. They now operate over 60 machines, employ 125 hands and occupy an entire building of seven floors on Congress St., Boston. The Hyde Park branch, called the Fairmount mills, corner Railroad Ave. and Walter St., was started in 1901, for the exclusive manufacture of Koll papers. Nearly 900 different sizes of rolls, varying from  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch to 100 inches are manufactured. Over thirty machines are employed here for this purpose and the daily output of the two plants exceeds 35 tons. Agencies are maintained all over the civilized world and many government contracts are handled by the firm.

**HYDE PARK SAVINGS BANK**

Incorporated 1871

The early settlers in this neighborhood, not having the advantages of a Savings Bank, were obliged to take their exercise by walking up Fairmount.

This was good, but walking to the Savings Bank is better, because of the added benefit derived from having a definite object in view. To-day there are over five thousand who do more or less walking to the Bank, and the amount to their credit is more than \$1,275,000.00. Are you among the number?

The Bank has paid dividends amounting to \$419,948.81 since its incorporation.

Open an account in the

**HYDE PARK CO-OPERATIVE BANK**

Capital May 5, 1886 . . . \$314.00

Capital March 7, 1906 . . \$321,119.16

THOS. E. FAUNCE, Pres.

GEORGE T. BRADY, Sec. and Treas.

*"American Homes are the Safeguard of American Liberties."*

**HYDE PARK NATIONAL BANK**

Organized 1904

15 HARVARD AVENUE

HYDE PARK, MASS.

Capital, \$100,000

Surplus, \$4,000

FRED L. CHILDS, Pres.

ARTEMAS S. RAYMOND, Vice Pres.

ARTHUR E. SMITH, Cashier

ALBERT C. CASE  
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GEORGE P. ERHARD  
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## **HYDE PARK'S GREATEST MERCANTILE ESTABLISHMENT**



**Grew from an acorn planted in Hyde  
Park twelve years ago. Hyde Park  
and the loyalty of its citizens  
made it.**

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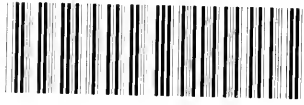
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